S. HRG. 100-195

DAY CARE FOR WORKING FAMILIES ACT OF 1987

HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES UNITED STATES SENATE

ONE HUNDREDTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

S. 1271

TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE FOR DAY CARE

MAY 22, 1987, TOLEDO, OH

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CONTENTS

STATEMENTS

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1987

TOLEDO, OH

	Page
Ansberry, Kathleen M., director of day care, Merrick House Settlement and Day Nursery, Cleveland, OH, prepared statement	112
Brown, Dan, president, Owens Technical College, Toledo, OH	1
Carson, Barbara J., prepared statement	111
Garvin, Catherine, student, Early Children Development and Education Program, Owens Technical College, Toledo, OH, prepared statement	120
Hein, Jewel, president, Columbus Chapter NOW, prepared statement	122
Hinzman, Jo Ann, director, Kno-Ho-Co Day Care, prepared statement	116
Kohler, Gordon J., executive director, Sylvania Community Services Center, prepared statement	83
Kunkler, Patricia E., prepared statement	118
Kwait, Jean R., executive director, Toledo Day Nursery, prepared statement	123
LaDuke, Lisa, prepared statement	101
Matthews, Margaret Stewart, director, Westminister Child Care Center, prepared statement	113
McFarland, Dr. Suzanne L., president of the Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children, professor of elementary and early childhood education at the University of Toledo; Mark Real, director of Children's Defense Fund of Ohio; and Cheri Sterman, director of the State of Ohio Office of Child Care Services	37
Prepared statement of:	
Dr. McFarland	42
Mr. Real	49
Ms. Sterman	62
Metzenbaum, Hon. Howard M., a U.S. Senator from the State of Ohio, prepared statement	4
Mitten, Lois, president, Children's Discovery Center Inc., prepared statement	86
North Side Child Development Center, prepared statement	67
Pope, Vivian, ACSW, LISW, QMRP, prepared statement	107
Powers, Mary Ellen, director, Upper Arlington Child Care Program, Columbus, OH, prepared statement	119
Seymour, Lisa, Toledo, OH; Steve Tucker, Rossford, OH; Sheila Benson, Toledo, OH; Cecilia Tolles, Toledo, OH; Dessie Kinter, Toledo, OH; Holly Rivers, Toledo, OH; William and Heidi Jones, Toledo, OH; S'Neta Cunningham, Toledo, OH; and Wendy Shivak, Oregon	06
Simpkins, Susan L., social worker, Seneca County Department of Human Services and Child Welfare Services, prepared statement	110
Smith, Mary M., executive director, Horizons Activities Center, prepared statement	82
Stephens, Dennis, supervisor, Child Care Unit, Lorain County Human Services, prepared statement	126
Toney, Betty, assistant director for programs, Miami Valley Child Development Centers, Inc., prepared statement (with attachments)	103
Tri-County Community Action Agency, Athens, OH, prepared statement	72

Yundt, Gloria, chairman of Early Childhood and Recreation Technologies; Marcia Derosa, director of child development center and director of volunteer services at St. Charles Hospital; Cathy Nunn, child development associate representative of the Council for Early Childhood Education; Cathy Gadt, owner and director of Little Miss Muffett Day Care Center and past president of Preschool Association ..... Page 20
Prepared statement of:
Ms. DeRosa 24
Ms. Nunn 28
Ms. Gadt 34

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

Articles, publications, etc.:
Testimony to the need for affordable, quality day care services 75

DAY CARE FOR WORKING FAMILIES ACT OF 1987

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1987

U.S. SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR,
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES,
Toledo, OH.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10 a.m., in the Child Care Technology Center, Technical College, Coller 10,000 Oregon Road, Toledo, Ohio. Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum, (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senator Metzenbaum.

STATEMENT OF DAN BROWN, PRESIDENT, OWENS TECHNICAL COLLEGE, TOLEDO, OH

Mr. BROWN. My name is Dan Brown. I'm President of Owens Technical College, and we are very happy Senator Metzenbaum has chosen Owens Technical College to be a site to have his hearings of the Subcommittee on Labor regarding day care.

Owens, I think, is a very appropriate site. You see a fine child care facility right here that we are all in. We are providing service for anywhere from 250 to 350 children. These children are, for the most part, children of our students, and these students in many instances would not be able to attend college if they didn't have a facility like this.

So I think Owens is a college that fits into the mission that the Senator is trying to pursue here on day care, and it ties in the jobs, training and education. So we are very proud to be a part of this hearing today, and I'd like all of you to welcome—along with me—United States Senator Howard Metzenbaum.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR METZENBAUM

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you very much. This is an official hearing of the Senate Labor Subcommittee, and the meeting will come to order. We open this hearing on day care by thanking all those at Owens Technical College for their gracious and kind assistance particularly President Daniel Brown; Vice President Chuck Mann; and Gloria Yundt, the director of this fine daycare center.

I'm delighted to be here at Owens Tech today, and I couldn't think of a better site for this Senate hearing. I want to share with you that the Chair of this committee is the exceptionally proud

grandfather of five little children, some of whom are in day care centers.

I had the privilege of going into part of the school and seeing those beaming faces of little children and hearing them sing. A special kind of contrast to the hearings that we so often have in Washington. This is a plus for me, although I do want to share with you that several weeks ago we had a hearing, not on day care but on another issue, and we were privileged to have at the witness table all four of the two-year-old quadruplets that the mother brought along to the hearing.

Those who are testifying this morning and who have children with them are invited to bring their children to the table. In many respects the Chair may very possibly welcome them even with more open arms than you, but we are delighted to have you here.

We've got a challenge on our hands. The American labor force has been transformed over the past two decades, and the Federal Government has been asleep at the switch. In America today 51 percent of mothers with children under three are in the labor force. Think of that. More than one out of every two mothers with children under three are in the labor force. Sixty-five percent, almost two-thirds, of the married couple families with children, both the husband and wife work.

By 1990 two-thirds of all new workers will be women, most of whom will become mothers at some point during their working lives.

What stronger evidence could we have than the need to have adequate day care centers so those who need to work, those who choose to work, will have a chance to give their children the opportunity to grow up in decent and healthy and appropriate surroundings.

Women work for the same reason that men do, to put food on the table and a roof overhead.

It often takes two incomes to make it in America today. That's the reality, and here is the problem. The supply of quality, affordable day care has not kept pace with the changing American family.

We in Washington deal with issues having to do with the SDI, with contras, with balancing the budget, or with issues having to do with food labeling and a host of other issues. But the emphasis has not been on day care, adequate day care facilities, and the issue has so much to do with a matter of balancing the budget.

If mothers and fathers can work and know that their children are secure, then they produce more taxes for the Government, and it relates directly to the challenges that we face, but—day care issues have been on the back burner.

But the fact is that the majority of working parents report difficulty in finding the kind of child care they need at a price they can afford. The result is long waiting lists, complex arrangements with family members and baby-sitters, and a lot of anxiety.

As a matter of fact, I checked the other day with respect to the Senate Day Care Center, and even the Senate Day Care Center has a long waiting list. There's nothing more important to parents than knowing their child is being cared for in a safe and loving environment. If you don't have that—if you have to worry about your

child, what he or she is doing, and how they are doing it, and who is taking care of that child—you can't be at work and relax in an efficient manner.

America needs quality day care, and what we've got is a shortage. A shortage of crisis proportions for infants, for handicapped children, and for kids after school. For too long day care has been placed at the bottom of the national agenda. Now day care must become a national priority. For this reason, in the United States Senate yesterday, I introduced the Day Care for Working Families Act of 1987. The bill will provide special, guaranteed loans for the construction of day care centers. It will establish employer-community day care councils to provide resource and referral services for employees; grants for the expansion of day care facilities, and support for day care for handicapped children.

The legislation will also provide financial aid for low income families. One dollar invested in day care saves three dollars in welfare. I believe that it's time that we in Government made that investment.

The legislation takes basic standards for day cares which were passed in the Ohio Legislature and applies them nationwide, and I commend the Ohio General Assembly for its action in this area and the Governor for his support of the legislation. But to move this kind of legislation in the Senate, we need help.

We need grass-roots testimony on the importance of day care in people's working lives. And that's why I'm here today in Toledo, to hear from parents, day care providers, and experts in the field.

Seven years ago when I authored and passed legislation expanding the day care tax credit, I spoke on the floor of the Senate about how far behind we had fallen in meeting our need for day care, and I remember so well the effort to get that amendment adopted, and I remember Mr. Don Regan coming over to the capitol building, our sitting in the office occupied by the Vice President in Congress; and meeting with him and saying to him, "We insist upon this amendment notwithstanding your objections."

I was joined in the effort by a Senator from a party different than mine, the other party, Senator Paula Hawkins. She and I said, "We are going to adopt it, whether you like it or not," and we worked it out on an agreed basis and got it through.

Today we can make sure that seven years from now, we are singing a different tune about how we came to grips with this critical national issue and provided safe, adequate and affordable care for our children; and I promise to you the day care issues, day care legislation, and the challenge in providing adequate day care for our children will no longer be on the back burner as a national issue. We will bring it to the forefront.

[The prepared statement of Senator Metzenbaum follows:]

U.S. Senator Howard M.
METZENBAUM
of Ohio

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Labor and Human Resources
Energy and Natural Resources
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: May 22, 1987

Contact: Nancy Coffey
(202) 224-2315

STATEMENT OF SENATOR HOWARD M. METZENBAUM
SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING ON DAY CARE: OWENS TECHNICAL COLLEGE,
TOLEDO, OHIO

WASHINGTON -- I would like to commence this hearing on day care by thanking all those at Owens Technical College for their gracious and kind assistance -- particularly President Daniel Brown, Vice President Chuck Mann and Gloria Yundt, the Director of this fine day care center. I'm delighted to be here at Owens Tech today, and I couldn't think of a better site for this Senate hearing.

Ladies and gentlemen, we've got a challenge on our hands. The American labor force has been transformed over the past two decades, and the federal government has been asleep at the switch.

In America today:

- 51 percent of mothers with children under three are in the labor force;

- in 65 percent of married-couple families with children, both the husband and wife work;

- by 1990, two-thirds of all new workers will be women, most of whom will become mothers at some point during their working lives.

Women work for the same reasons that men do. To put food on the table and a roof overhead.

It often takes two incomes to make it in America today. That's the reality -- and here is the problem. The supply of quality, affordable day care has not kept pace with the changing American family.

The majority of working parents report difficulty in finding the kind of child care they need at a price they can afford.

The result is long waiting lists, complex arrangements with family members and baby-sitters, and a lot of anxiety.

There is nothing more important to a parent than knowing their child is being cared for in a safe and loving environment. If you don't have that, you don't have peace-of-mind.

America needs quality day care and what we've got is a shortage -- a shortage of crisis proportions for infants, for handicapped children and for kids after-school.

For too long, day care has been placed at the bottom of the national agenda. Now day care must become a national priority. For this reason, in the United States Senate on Wednesday, I introduced the Day Care for Working Families Act of 1987.

The bill will provide special, guaranteed loans for the construction of day care centers. It will establish employer-community day care councils to provide resource and referral services for employees; grants for the expansion of day care facilities; and support for day care for handicapped children.

The legislation will also provide financial aid for low-income families. One dollar invested in day care saves three dollars in welfare. It's time we made that investment.

Finally the legislation takes basic standards for day care which were passed in the Ohio legislature and applies them nationwide.

But to move this kind of legislation in the Senate we need help -- we need grass-roots testimony on the importance of day care in people's working lives. That's why I am here today in Toledo. To hear from parents, day care providers, and experts in the field.

Seven years ago, when I passed legislation expanding the day care tax credit, I spoke in the Congressional Record about how far behind we had fallen in meeting our need for day care.

Together, we can make sure that seven years from now we are singing a different tune -- about how we came to grips with this critical national issue and provided safe, adequate, and affordable care for our children.

Senator METZENBAUM. Our first panel today consists of a group of parents. Lisa Seymour of Toledo; Steve Tucker of Rossford, Ohio; Sheila Benson of Toledo; Cecilia Tolles of Toledo; Dessie Kintner-Kinter of Toledo; Holly Rivers of Toledo; William and Heidi Jones of Toledo; S'neta Cunningham of Toledo; and Wendy Shivak of Oregon

Welcome to our hearing, and I think our first witness is Lisa Seymour, we are very happy to hear from you, and it's nice to have those young people at the table with you too, Cecilia. Please proceed.

We are asking our witnesses to confine their remarks to three minutes. And I will ask James Wagner, who has been so helpful in putting this hearing together and sits behind me, just to keep some—respect to time. Please proceed, Lisa.

Want to tell us your story?

STATEMENTS OF LISA SEYMOUR, TOLEDO, OH; STEVE TUCKER, ROSSFORD, OH; SHEILA BENSON, TOLEDO, OH; CECILIA TOLLES, TOLEDO OH; DESSIE KINTER, TOLEDO, OH; HOLLY RIVERS, TOLEDO OH; WILLIAM AND HEIDI JONES, TOLEDO, OH; S'NETA CUNNINGHAM, TOLEDO, OH; AND WENDY SHIVAK, OREGON

Ms. SEYMOUR. I have been on a waiting list for seven months at Riverside Hospital—that's where I work—and they offer the day care center for employees first and also the outside people; and I'd like to work full time, but I really can't work full time unless I find day care for three days a week for my two boys, because my mother watches them the other days and she really can't watch them full time. And it's offered at a discounted rate which is still quite a bit, but I really like my job and want to continue to work; and that's my problem.

Senator METZENBAUM. And if you could find day care, you'd be able to work full time, the job is there for you.

Ms. SEYMOUR. Well, it's not there, but I'm pretty sure I could find a full-time job.

Senator METZENBAUM. What kind of work do you do, Lisa?

Ms. SEYMOUR. I'm an EKG technician.

Senator METZENBAUM. Your mother takes care of Tristan and Derrick; how old are they?

Ms. SEYMOUR. Tristan's two-and-a-half, and Derrick's three weeks old. I haven't gone back to work yet, but——

Senator METZENBAUM. Derrick is how old?

Ms. SEYMOUR. Derrick's three weeks.

Senator METZENBAUM. And does your mother have any difficulty in taking care of the children? Does she also work?

Ms. SEYMOUR. Part time. So if I work full time, she really couldn't watch them full time.

Senator METZENBAUM. There is a day care center at the hospital?

Ms. SEYMOUR. Yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. But because you work part time, you can't use that day care center?

Ms. SEYMOUR. Well, they offer it to the full-time people first, and then I also—I've been on the list for seven months because there's

such a demand for the day care center; and I work at 7 in the morning, so it would be the most convenient place for me to take them.

Senator METZENBAUM. As I understand it, if you work full time, your children could get into the day care center.

Ms. SEYMOUR. Well, they'd have a better chance of getting in. I wouldn't get in right away either because there's still such a list. And I put the newborn on—my three week—year old—on right away as soon as he was born because they won't take him till he's six months old either, and I figure it'll probably take that long anyway, so——

Senator METZENBAUM. I understand you hope to continue your training in vascular studies?

Ms. SEYMOUR. Uh-huh.

Senator METZENBAUM. How important is day care to those plans?

Ms. SEYMOUR. Very important. I couldn't really go and get trained in the hospital unless I work full time or have the opportunity to go to another hospital either.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you very much, Lisa. Please remain at the table until we are through or do whatever is convenient for you.

Steve Tucker, happy to hear from you, sir.

Mr. TUCKER. Thank you. I have three children; the oldest boy is going to be 17 next week. My youngest son is almost 15, and then I have a daughter who was a surprise baby that's five years old, and she goes to Owens Day Care Center.

My wife and I are both from automotive background. My wife works at Hydra-Matic in Toledo, and I've worked for Dana Corporation since 1969. In 1981 I was laid off from my job, and there was no hope for recall. In fact, to this day there's still people laid off there that have 20-years-plus seniority.

So day care allowed me to go back to school here at Owens, and I tried to get into a field where Dana would find me more attractive to rehire me back. So the day care—I couldn't have done that without having someone to watch my daughter. My first priority has always been my children, and I was kind of in a Catch-22 position. I know I needed to go to school, but I also knew that I had a responsibility to my daughter first. My wife at that time had just been called back to work at Hydra-Matic, so my responsibility was to also take care of the baby while she provided the food and clothes.

So after I graduated from Owens, I was fortunate enough to get back with Dana Corporation, and I suppose I'm more lucky than most people, but—the day care was the number one priority in allowing me to return to school.

Senator METZENBAUM. Allowing you to return to work.

Mr. TUCKER. To work also.

Senator METZENBAUM. Yes.

Mr. TUCKER. But also to school.

Senator METZENBAUM. Originally you had worked at Dana from 1969 to 1981?

Mr. TUCKER. Yes, that's correct.

Senator METZENBAUM. And without day care you couldn't have been retrained; without day care you couldn't be holding your present job.

Mr. TUCKER. That's correct.

Senator METZENBAUM. And holding your present job makes it possible for you to do that which isn't particularly pleasant, but to help pay the taxes which keep this country running.

Mr. TUCKER. That's true, and believe me, I pay a good share of them.

Senator METZENBAUM. Well, I'm sure that you would prefer to have that job.

Mr. TUCKER. Oh, that's true. I've been very blessed, but there are a lot of people who are forced to work two jobs, and I feel that, you know, when you spend $150 a week to feed five people in groceries, and your house payments run between 4 and $700 a month, and you have interest payments on loans, and it's very hard to get by today with just one income. And I feel very fortunate that both of us are able to work, and Owens Day Care has been a lifesaver for our family.

Senator METZENBAUM. Well, I want to say to you, when I mention this matter of your paying the taxes, it isn't that I don't believe the tax burdens are too heavy for middle income Americans. In fact, I do. But my point is that day care, which really is a very modest cost as compared to the overall scheme of things—makes it possible for people to work. If people work, they produce incomes; if they produce incomes, they pay taxes; and if they don't work, they go on welfare. They are a drain on their Government, and what we have to do is to convince all of my colleagues, and the President as well, that day care saves the Government money. When you spend a dollar on day care—you save three dollars on welfare.

So it's really casting thy bread upon the waters and it comes back many-fold, and you are a good example of that. I gather that your daughter is doing well in the day care center, and is enjoying it?

Mr. TUCKER. Yes. In fact, a lot of times when I come and pick her up, she doesn't want to go home.

Senator METZENBAUM. Doesn't want to go home.

Mr. TUCKER. She's having too good of a time.

Senator METZENBAUM. We're going to pass a law about that; children have to go home.

Mr. TUCKER. But one other thing. The day care at Owens is special to someone in my position, as well as the people who have been on welfare, and would help them. I mean, it's not just for people who are welfare recipients. And I think maybe that's a point they should be aware of also, because the people that don't have a problem with day care—either their children are grown up, or they never had children—and they probably have a hard time understanding what we as parents go through.

Senator METZENBAUM. Some people say day care is a luxury. How would you respond to that?

Mr. TUCKER. I think it's a necessity. Because our children are the future of this country—it's different when you put them in the home of someone that's a neighbor than it is to put them under regimented organization like this provides. My daughter, she

knows—she gets up in the morning, moves around; dinners and meals are provided at a regular basis; she gets a nap in the afternoon. In fact, in many cases she probably gets as good and as much love as we could give her at home here.

Senator METZENBAUM. You go home and give her a hug and kiss for the chairman.

Sheila, we'd like to hear from you.

Ms. BENSON. I am an employee at Owens Technical College in the Child Care Technology Lab. I also have a two-year-old that attends Owens Tech. I started working here. I'm currently working part time in the nursery.

If I was not able to bring my child along with me, then I wouldn't have been able to work, not even part time. So therefore day care, from my point of view, is very important because I didn't see any other alternative because there was no one in my family structure that could keep my child for me, because they also work.

And the fact that I worked part time, I did not make enough to bring her to a child care facility such as Owens, which I would prefer to bring her. If I had to take her somewhere, I wanted to take her to the best place. So therefore, if I didn't have the chance to bring her here money-wise—and I do receive some Federal help for bringing her here—if not for that, then she wouldn't be here and neither would I, and I would probably be at home, one of those three people on welfare, which I prefer not to be.

Senator METZENBAUM. You have been on ADC yourself.

Ms. BENSON. For 18 years, yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. And you have a two-year old girl?

Ms. BENSON. Yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. You're due with a child at the moment?

Ms. BENSON. Pardon me?

Senator METZENBAUM. You're pregnant now?

Ms. BENSON. Yes, I am.

Senator METZENBAUM. Now, if there were not—well, let me start it a different way. As I understand your position, and I think you're a perfect answer to those who say that women want to just get the welfare check and don't want to work. You are here; your child in the day care center; you are training here. What do you hope to be able to do when you leave the school?

Ms. BENSON. When I leave this school?

Senator METZENBAUM. Yes.

Ms. BENSON. Hopefully I won't be leaving this school.

Senator METZENBAUM. Pardon?

Ms. BENSON. I'm not—I do not attend this school. I work at——

Senator METZENBAUM. Oh, you work at the school?

Ms. BENSON. Yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. I see. So you are working here at the school——

Ms. BENSON. Yes, I am.

Senator METZENBAUM. I see. I see. I misunderstood. And as I understand it you have, I think, just said that you much prefer to have a job and earning your keep rather than being on welfare.

Ms. BENSON. Yes, because being a child growing up on welfare, I'm a perfect example, I can tell you. The assistance you get from the Welfare Program—or ADC which is for dependent children—

you don't get very much, okay. It's just enough to cover maybe household bills, but I can remember many occasions asking my mother for money for the Popsicle truck, and it was no money there; or a bicycle or whatever.

And it's extremely hard now that I'm a parent to tell your child, "Well, I don't have any money," or, "You can't have a bicycle this year." Or whatever the case may be.

So I did not want that for my child, but I also—because I choose to have the child—I did not want to feel as though I was penalized for having a child, and that's the kind of feeling you get if you want to work, and you cannot work because you have a child. You have tendency to feel that way.

I'm not pointing fingers at anybody because it was your choice, but it does make it extremely difficult. And from my point of view—not to hurt anybody's feelings or make anybody to feel less—to be on welfare to me has a tendency to make a person lazy because if you are going to receive a check every month, then there's really no need for you to go out and look for a job. But if there's a person that wants to work—they do need training—and day care is provided. You can take your child somewhere and go back to school or look for—even to look for a job; you can't look for a job if you have to drag a child along with you. So if you can find somewhere to put a child and go back out and look for a job or to get the training, then to me that's ideal.

Senator METZENBAUM. Could you work if Title 20 Federal Program did not cover your day care cost?

Ms. BENSON. No, I would not be able to work because my income monthly doesn't even meet my day care costs here. I don't even make enough monthly to attempt to pay. I did try to attempt to pay in the beginning for myself, and it was impossible because the bills were running up so high for child care.

Senator METZENBAUM. So if you didn't have Title 20 help to pay for the day care, you would be sitting at home and not working; now you are working making something like—how much approximately do you make a month?

Ms. BENSON. Approximately I make 655.

Senator METZENBAUM. 650?

Ms. BENSON. Somewhere in there, yeah.

Senator METZENBAUM. And that wouldn't be enough to pay for the day care for one child——

Ms. BENSON. Let alone two.

Senator METZENBAUM [continuing]. And leave you anything to live on. It certainly wouldn't be enough to pay for two children?

Ms. BENSON. No, it would not.

Senator METZENBAUM. Well, okay now. The Chairman's name is Howard Morton Metzenbaum. I assume that child will be named Howard Morton?

Ms. BENSON. Well, we will——

Senator METZENBAUM. You don't need to answer. All right. Well, we are very proud of what you are doing, and how you are trying to do it, and to make it for yourself; and I think you're a good answer to so many of those who say, "Mothers want to be on AFDC and don't want to work." And I think you are proof positive that isn't the fact.

Cecilia Tolles and your twins. We are happy to welcome them. Let's see, what are their names? Maybe they could tell us. Can you tell me your names?

Ms. TOLLES. They are very shy.

Senator METZENBAUM. I'll bet—let's see, is anybody's name Kim? Would you raise your hand, Kim? No Kim? Is there a Katie there? No Katie?

Ms. TOLLES. Can you raise your hand?

Senator METZENBAUM. Okay. Must be two other children.

Ms. TOLLES. This is Katie, and this is Kim.

Senator METZENBAUM. Well, we are delighted to have you as well as your children. Why don't you tell us your story, Cecilia.

Ms. TOLLES. Well, I work full time as an office manager for an advertising agency. My husband also works as a draftsman full time. If it wasn't for day care, neither of us would be able to work—or he would be able to work, and I would have to stay home with the children. We wouldn't be able to enjoy the lifestyle that we do now.

Day care is our third largest expense out of our monthly budget. I feel it's well spent even though when it comes right down to it, if I didn't work and did stay home, we wouldn't be able to have a new car or a swing set in the backyard for the children, but what I clear after I pay day care and the extra expenses is not much. It's enough to have a few extra luxuries for the children which I feel that they need.

Senator METZENBAUM. Would you say that the two incomes in your family are a necessity, or do you work because you want——

Ms. TOLLES. No, they are really a necessity when it comes right down to it. To try and make it on his income, we really wouldn't be able to. We would have to sell the house or——

Senator METZENBAUM. I think you tried a private baby sitter for three months. How did that work out?

Ms. TOLLES. We had a very good private baby sitter.

I was real happy with her but felt that when the girls got old enough, that they needed to be more in a day care structured-type atmosphere so they could learn.

And the baby sitter was excellent, and the girls still ask to go see her, but it wasn't what I felt they needed. I wasn't real sure—you know a lot of times if she had—being a mother herself—if she had errands to run, the girls would be across the street at her neighbor's house, or she'd have the neighbor come over and keep an eye on the girls, and we were just really never quite sure what was going to happen.

Senator METZENBAUM. Where are the twins in day care?

Ms. TOLLES. They are in day care at the YWCA downtown.

Senator METZENBAUM. And are you happy with the program?

Ms. TOLLES. Real happy with it. I was just amazed at the change in the girls when they started the day care; how much more—they'd come home singing little songs and they knew their ABC song, and they are learning their colors and shapes that I really feel that even if they were home with me, they wouldn't know. It's a lot easier to kind of set them down in front of the TV and play color and take them for walks than it is to teach them what they really need to know now.

Senator METZENBAUM. Well, we appreciate you sharing your thoughts with us, and I think you make a good case for why day care is important for the two-member family where you are working. We are happy to have Katie and Kim with us also.

Ms. TOLLES. Thank you.

Senator METZENBAUM. Dessie, would you like to tell us your story?

Ms. KINTER. Yes, I have a three-year-old handicapped child, and we tried to place her in a day care but couldn't find one that would accept her.

Senator METZENBAUM. Tell us about Heather, if you would, please.

Ms. KINTER. Well, when Heather was born she spent almost six months at MCO Hospital. She has a lot of problems. She doesn't walk by herself yet. She doesn't talk. She isn't toilet trained, and the day care center that we did check out that was recommended wouldn't take her because she wouldn't lay down in the afternoon and take a nap. And you would have to have special permission from the State in order to have her put in with the younger children during mealtimes and things, and that was the main reason they would not accept her.

Senator METZENBAUM. Now, both you and your husband Bruce work to support your family.

Ms. KINTER. Yes, we do.

Senator METZENBAUM. You have an Associate Degree in Business Administration, and Bruce is a Certified Health Care Assistant; is that right?

Ms. KINTER. Yes, that's right.

Senator METZENBAUM. Now, what arrangements do you have for Heather's care while you and Bruce are working?

Ms. KINTER. Well, he really only works part time.

He just works a few hours a day for right now, so he watches her; and when I work, I usually work evenings, but I'm seriously considering going back to school and getting another degree because I can't find the kinds of jobs I like. I'd like to find something with benefits. Heather has Medicaid, but my husband and I have no insurance whatsoever——

Senator METZENBAUM. I'm sorry. I didn't hear it.

Ms. KINTER. My daughter is on Medicaid, but my husband and I have no insurance whatsoever; and really can't afford it unless I can get a better-paying job.

Senator METZENBAUM. And your husband, did you say works only part time?

Ms. KINTER. For right now he only takes care of one person, and that really doesn't bring in enough money to provide for day care. Day care is quite expensive even if, you know, there was someplace that could take her.

Senator METZENBAUM. How would it affect you and Bruce if you could find a day care facility that would care for Heather?

Ms. KINTER. Well, it would enable us to go out and to possibly take on more—he could take on more clients and make more money. My husband works for himself.

Senator METZENBAUM. I want to thank you, and tell you that I think we all appreciate the responsibilities and the obligations and

the challenges that bringing up your little daughter entail, but it's obvious you and your husband are trying to do the very best in working at it; and it's a shame that there aren't some adequate day care centers that could provide for Heather so both of you could go out and earn a living or further your education. Thank you very much.

I want to thank all of you for your testimony. It's extremely helpful to us. We will ask you to excuse yourself from the table at the moment and ask the remaining parents if they would come forward to testify.

While we are waiting for the other witnesses to come forward—and I gather they are in the room—I wonder, are there people here from other day care centers throughout the state or in the area who wish to identify themselves, to stand up and be identified? Anybody here from other day care centers other than this one? Why don't you stand up and tell us who you are.

Ms. ZYCHOWICZ. I'm Jackie Zychowicz, administrator of Loving Tree Day Care & Preschool in Toledo.

Senator METZENBAUM. Where is it located?

Ms. ZYCHOWICZ. It's located at the corner of Upton and Monroe Street. Walking distance from Toledo Hospital and the University of Toledo.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you. We are happy to have you with us. Anybody else here from any other day care centers? Please stand.

Ms. COLE. I'm Colleen Cole, and I'm a YWCA Child Care Director. We are located on Jefferson and Tenth.

Senator METZENBAUM. Sounds like you are doing a good job, according to one of our witnesses. Anybody else here from——

MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE. I'm from Toledo Day Nursery. We are in the near downtown area at Southard and 14th.

Senator METZENBAUM. We are happy to have all of you with us. I think I saw somebody else that was ready to stand up over here. Please do.

MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE. Children's Creative Center in Dayton, Ohio.

Senator METZENBAUM. We're happy that you are all the way here from Dayton, Ohio. Very happy to have you.

Ms. JONES. I'm Lorreta Jones from Dayton, Ohio, the County Community Action Agency Day Care Center, program coordinator.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you for joining us.

Ms. MCMICKENS. Janet McMickens from Community Child Development Center. We are out in Holland, Ohio. It's way out in the outskirts of Toledo.

Senator METZENBAUM. Very good. Happy that you are with us today.

Ms. MCMICKENS. Nice to be here.

Senator METZENBAUM. Anybody else? Just pop up and——

Ms. POZNIAK. Rebecca Pozniak from Rebecca's Playhouse in Sylvania Township. That's also a suburb of Toledo.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you.

Ms. CULP. I'm Maggie Culp from the First Church of God Christian School located at Collingwood and Central Avenues. A very fine inner-city day care center in West Toledo.

Mr. SWEMBA. My name is John Swemba. My wife and I operate Calico Corners Day Care Schools. We have schools in Bryan, Napoleon and Defiance, Ohio.

Ms. MAJER. Trisha Majer from Catherine's Early Childhood Center across the street from Mercy Hospital.

Ms. DAVIS. My name is Page Davis, and I run First Church of the Nazarene Day Care Center here in Perrysburg, about ten minutes from Owens.

Ms. HILL. I am Virginia Hill, director of the Learning Circle of Cooperative Preschool, in Warren.

Ms. KRAUSE. I'm Linda Krause, director of the Holland Community Nursery School in Warren, Ohio.

Ms. CRAIG. Susan Craig from Circus World Child Care Center in Sylvania Township.

Ms. DICKERSON. Beverly Dickerson from Bright Beginnings, which is located on Monroe Street by the Art Museum. It's an inner-city day care.

Senator METZENBAUM. Anybody else?

Ms. LAIGE. I'm Nancy Laige. This is Hildy Pfeiffer. I'm the director and Hildy is the administrator at Northside Child Development Center of Columbus. And I'd also like to mention that Northside was the first child development center in the State of Ohio to receive accreditation from NYC.

Ms. MCKINNEY. I'm Nancy McKinney, director of Jenny Cricket Day Care Center located in Nathan Health School, and we are in the inner city.

Ms. WOKE. My name is Renee Woke, and I'm with St. Vincent Child Development Center. We are an employer-sponsored center for the employees of the medical center in Central Catholic High School.

Senator METZENBAUM. Did we get them all?

Ms. BIHN. Theresa Bihn. I'm from Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center in Port Clinton, Ohio.

Senator METZENBAUM. We are just delighted to have all of you here. If I missed anybody, I didn't intend to. I'm just delighted to have all of you here, and we are also particularly pleased that State Representative Randy Gardner is here. Randy, where are you? There's Randy Gardner over here. It's good that he's indicated an interest. Randy, would you like to come up and take a seat with us up here? You are welcome to do so.

Our next witness is Holly Rivers. Holly, we are happy to hear from you.

Ms. RIVERS. Thank you.

Senator METZENBAUM. Bring it close to you so we can hear you.

Ms. RIVERS. Okay. Yes. My name is Holly Rivers. I have three boys attending the Community Development Day Care Center in Holland, Ohio. I'm a full-time business student at Lourdes College, and my husband works full time.

Senator METZENBAUM. Your husband works full time?

Ms. RIVERS. Yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. How old are your children?

Ms. RIVERS. They are all boys; two, four and six.

Senator METZENBAUM. And are you happy with the program your children are in at the—they are at the Community Child Development Center?

Ms. RIVERS. Yes. It's an excellent day care program, and it's the center of why I'm able to attend school. I'm in school full time. My son Aaron who is six year old—six years old—he attends kindergarten at Stranahan School in Sylvania, so that way I was able to go to school full time because the Community Development Center do offer transportation. They pick my two sons up in the morning, then once Aaron gets out of kindergarten, they also go to the school and picks him up and take him back to the day care center. That way I'm able to arrange a full-time day class schedule at school.

Senator METZENBAUM. What school do you attend?

Ms. RIVERS. I attend Lourdes Catholic College in Sylvania, Ohio.

Senator METZENBAUM. And what do you hope to gain by going to school? What are your educational goals?

Ms. RIVERS. I am striving for a four-year degree in Business Management. After I am finished with that, I will go directly on to Bowling Green and receive—hopefully—my MBA. So I need the day care to cover me all the way through.

Senator METZENBAUM. How important is day care to you in meeting those goals and continuing your education?

Ms. RIVERS. Well, my goals are based on the fact that I'm getting quality day care. I would not be able to go to school full time if I didn't have quality day care from the Community Development Center. And it's also—is enabled me to strive for a higher goal which is my Master Degree, because that way I know once I do graduate from Lourdes College I won't be in a stressful position to try to find employment to pay for child care while I continue on to my second degree.

Senator METZENBAUM. I understand you chose your college on the basis of it being close to day care.

Ms. RIVERS. Yes. I live in Sylvania Township, and Lourdes College is in Sylvania. The Community Development Day Care is right in Holland which is right outside of Sylvania. So that way it was perfect. Everything was in a close knit. I wasn't far from the kids. I was very close to school. They do offer transportation if—we only have one car, and that way if my husband takes the car to work, the day care picks up my children, I get a way to school, and I'm in school until my classes are out. I come home, and the day care drop the kids off at home.

Senator METZENBAUM. Title 20 Program covers your day care expenses?

Ms. RIVERS. Yes, they cover all of our day care expenses.

Senator METZENBAUM. And without that coverage, would you be able to go to school?

Ms. RIVERS. No, the Community Development Day Care is $10 per child. I have three. That would be $150 a week. It would just be impossible to pay for day care without the Title Program.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you very much.

Ms. RIVERS. Thank you.

Senator METZENBAUM. Mr. William Jones. Mr. Jones has a 100-percent hearing defect, and day care allows him to train at Owens Tech in computers. How many children do you have, Mr. Jones?

[The following colloquy of Mr. Jones is interpreted, through sign language, by Mrs. Jones.]

Mr. JONES. I have three children.

Senator METZENBAUM. And how old are they?

Mr. JONES. My oldest daughter is 11. I have a five-year-old son and an almost three-year-old daughter. My last two children come here to the Owens Technical Center. I am a student here.

Senator METZENBAUM. I didn't get what you said.

Mrs. JONES. He is a student here.

Senator METZENBAUM. He's a student. And you, Mrs. Jones, are also employed at the college as an interpreter for the hearing impaired; is that correct?

Mrs. JONES. Yes. I am a full-time professional interpreter, mainly on the Owens campus.

Senator METZENBAUM. And are you husband and wife?

Mrs. JONES. Yes, we are married.

Senator METZENBAUM. And Mr. Jones, what are you studying here at Owens Tech?

Mr. JONES. Mechanical Engineering with CAD, Computer Aided Drafting.

Senator METZENBAUM. And what are your future goals, and what do you hope to do when you graduate?

Mr. JONES. I would like to work in mechanical engineering in the same field that I am studying, and if I didn't have day care, I couldn't go to school. I would have to stay home and take care of the children while my wife worked because they, the deaf, have so many needs for interpreters. It would be more important.

I tried to get Title 20, and they turned me down. They don't understand my job. I don't make enough money. So BBR helps pay for my day care. And outside organization has also helped me pay for my day care here.

Senator METZENBAUM. How do you feel about having your children in day care centers? Are you comfortable with that arrangement?

Mr. JONES. Oh, yes, very much. I'm very comfortable. It makes our children very happy.

Senator METZENBAUM. Let me ask you this categorically. Why is day care important to your family?

Mr. JONES. Because I'm able to be retrained, because I am disabled. I was a disabled worker before. I want to work and have new skills, and day care is very, very important to me and my family.

Senator METZENBAUM. Let me ask you, Mrs. Jones, the same question. What would you do before you had day care, and was it difficult to study?

Mrs. JONES. Before we had day care I had to stay home, which was nice. I would like to be with my children, but we did not eat very much, and my job is very important because the deaf need interpreters all the time for many different things so they can lead independent lives, and I am very skilled at that. And I prefer to work, and if we did not have two—well, my husband is on disability now. If we did not have his income——

Senator METZENBAUM. Your husband is what?

Mrs. JONES. He's on disability. That covers the house payment. I feed the family. And it helps to have us all here together at Owens because we only have one car, and we leave home in the morning. We are here from usually 7:30 in the morning until about 4 in the afternoon, and then I also work in the evenings. And it's nice to be together at least part of the day.

Senator METZENBAUM. And what do you do here?

Mrs. JONES. I have a client who is a deaf student here at Owens, and I go to this client's classes, and I sit and I interpret exactly what's being said, the same as I'm doing now; and this enables that other deaf student to get a degree. My husband has his own interpreter for his classes here.

Senator METZENBAUM. Let me ask both of you one final question. Some people believe day care is a luxury, that it's not really essential for many families. How would you respond to that?

Mrs. JONES. William says day care is not a luxury. Many people want training. And going to school, I can't study at the same time and take care of the kids. It would be impossible. While they are in school, I can be retrained and hopefully then I can get a job.

Senator METZENBAUM. Mr. Jones, was he congenitally deaf from birth?

Mrs. JONES. He was born deaf, yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. I want to say to you, Mrs. Jones, that we appreciate your interpreting this hearing for the audience and helping us in connection with it, and it's very valuable to us, and we are very happy to have both of you here as participants in this hearing.

Mrs. JONES. Thank you very much.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you. Thank you both. I think you ought to tell the audience, Mrs. Jones, that you and your husband were both applauded by all of the others present at the hearing which I think is an indication of the kind of support the audience and all of us feel for you, what both of you are doing.

Mrs. JONES. Thank you. Thank you very much.

Senator METZENBAUM. Do you want to come back up and interpret for the audience?

Mrs. JONES. That might be best, yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you. Mrs. Cunningham, we are happy to hear from you. You have a five-year-old girl and a three-year-old boy?

Ms. CUNNINGHAM. Yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. Tell us your situation.

Ms. CUNNINGHAM. First of all, I could not pronounce your last name correct. So my first name is S'neta.

Senator METZENBAUM. What did I say?

Ms. CUNNINGHAM. We can be even here once you know that I can't pronounce your last name correct.

Senator METZENBAUM. Didn't I say S'neta?

Ms. CUNNINGHAM. Everyone pronounce it S'neta. It's S'neta.

Senator METZENBAUM. Oh, S'neta. Well, my name is very simple. You just have to gargle first. Very simple, Metzenbaum. It's like S'neta. You pronounce it the same way. Please proceed.

Ms. CUNNINGHAM. First of all, I work full time now, and my husband is self-employed. I never got a chance to even think about day care because of the incomes that we held at the time. There wasn't enough to—once we finish making and pay the baby sitter, it couldn't even meet the day care center for two children.

We were fortunate to have a baby sitter that loved children, for one, and really accepted whatever you could give. She didn't have a set fee or anything of that sort. Which we do still have her. I did not get a full-time job until I was able to find one that I felt would suit me getting a chance to do—keep checkup on my kids because the majority of the incomes that you can get today, whatever excuse you have for your children or whatever, you can't give them; if you have to go to a doctor's appointments and have their shots made or whatever. You cannot leave your job at those times for certain reasons like that, or if they have a cold or a flu.

So I basically stayed home the first two or three years of both of my children's birth to make sure that they were taken care of the way—up to certain types of shots and being taken care of medically.

Also then, when I was able to go out and find—end up lucky enough to get a job that I was able to have my family involved with it, where I can keep an eye on them also—whether they are being taken care of by a baby sitter or not—I still am a little bit paranoid for who is taking care of them. But with me and my husband's job we're—we don't have—we can basically on our own where we can, you know, change schedules with keeping them also. So we really haven't got a chance to use the day care facilities, but it has been in our minds if we were able to afford it for one.

I was just sitting here admiring the children out here playing among one another, and that's what I wanted my children to be around a lot. That's why I did want to consider day care in—in my plans for them in the future for—far as my son is concerned. My daughter will be able to go to Head Start next year, fortunately. So, you know, I would want him around surroundings with other children to be able to do more things as he came up, instead of being stuck around one house all day long until Mom or Dad are able to get home.

Senator METZENBAUM. Your son's name is Kenya?

Ms. CUNNINGHAM. My son's name is Kamiel Kalese. My daughter's name is Kenya Kalema.

Senator METZENBAUM. Oh, your daughter's name is Kenya.

Ms. CUNNINGHAM. Got that?

Senator METZENBAUM. I know Kenya. I'm just curious. I have been in Kenya many, many years ago.

Ms. CUNNINGHAM. Okay.

Senator METZENBAUM. And tell me, how did you happen to name them?

Ms. CUNNINGHAM. Well, my husband's name is Kenneth, and I have always wanted a junior in a way. So since it ended up being a girl, we had to get it close enough to Kenneth. So it just so happened to come out Kenya. And there is—one is African and Arabic. So that's—my husband chose the names from out of a book.

Senator METZENBAUM. Have you ever been to Kenya?

Ms. CUNNINGHAM. No. I'm doing good getting back and forth to Ohio. To Lucas for that matter.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you very much. I'm afraid to throw her any more questions.

Wendy, we are happy to have you. Tell us about your situation.

Ms. SHIVAK. I have two children. One is two-and-a-half, and one is one year old. And I started working when I had my second child. I decided to work part time and—which I could afford because my mother conveniently comes to my house to watch both of my children, and I work about 20—I'm gone 25 hours a week, approximately. And I do pay her, but it's not very much.

Senator METZENBAUM. Not very much.

Ms. SHIVAK. So now she decided she needs more money, and she had gotten another job which she will be starting in the fall.

So I'm faced with the need of a baby sitter or day care. I looked into day care which is very expensive. I have one child who is still in diapers, and my two-and-a-half year old is not. So the total for a week would be—would exceed what I make. So I couldn't afford it. I couldn't afford to work.

Senator METZENBAUM. Right now—when your mother leaves, that means you will have to quit working?

Ms. SHIVAK. Well, I'm faced with either working and losing money if I have my children in day care—or having a baby sitter come to my house or take them to a baby sitter.

Senator METZENBAUM. Can you find a baby sitter?

Ms. SHIVAK. I haven't looked yet, and my husband has a lot of anxieties about having someone watch our children that we don't know, and we don't know of any personally that would be able to watch our children. We thought about putting the add in the paper, but again, like I said, he has a lot of anxieties about getting someone that he doesn't know. Which I do too.

Senator METZENBAUM. Do you think you will be able to find day care that is affordable?

Ms. SHIVAK. I don't think so, no.

Senator METZENBAUM. What kind of work do you do?

Ms. SHIVAK. I do a lot of public relations. I'm an assistant to a senior salesman, and I take care of his customers, calling on them. And I also do some training. I work for a telephone system, and I train people how to use their telephones.

Senator METZENBAUM. So if you don't work you can't provide for your children, the income that you have on which you obviously pay taxes as we all do——

Ms. SHIVAK. Uh-huh.

Senator METZENBAUM. You would have to terminate that work.

Ms. SHIVAK. Right.

Senator METZENBAUM. And the Government will suffer as a consequence. Whereas if we provided some day care for you or help provide some day care, that would not be necessary. Does your husband earn a very substantial salary?

Ms. SHIVAK. Yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. Would his income be enough to cover that?

Ms. SHIVAK. It would have been before I started work, but now that I have worked, we have bought things with my income, and I don't know what we would do.

Senator METZENBAUM. I want to thank all of you. I appreciate very much your participating, and thank you very much for being with us here today. Thank you.

Ms. SHIVAK. Thank you.

Senator METZENBAUM. The next panel—we have now gone from those who use the day care facilities. Our next panel will consist of day care providers. That panel includes Gloria Yundt, Chairman of the Early Childhood and Recreation Technologies—she has a following here. I'm not even going to introduce you, you got a big hand already.

And we also would like Marcia DeRosa, Director of Child Development Center and Director of Volunteer Services at St. Charles Hospital come forward. And Cathy Nunn, Child Development Associate Representative for the Council for Early Childhood Education. And Cathy Gadt owner and director of Little Miss Muffett Day Care Center and past president of Preschool Association.

I want to protest on behalf of the men. We don't have any men on this panel. Is Cathy here? Cathy Nunn? And is Cathy Gadt here?

MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE. Yes, she's here. She's being interviewed.

Senator METZENBAUM. She's being interviewed. Okay, fine. Please come forward. Gloria, we do have this three-minute rule because our schedule is tight, but I want to say that if you have written statements, they may be submitted for the record. And if there are others in the audience who feel that they have written statements that they wish to submit, we will make every effort to include them in the record. Gloria, please proceed.

STATEMENTS OF GLORIA YUNDT, CHAIRMAN OF EARLY CHILDHOOD AND RECREATION TECHNOLOGIES; MARCIA DEROSA, DIRECTOR OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND DIRECTOR OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES AT ST. CHARLES HOSPITAL; CATHY NUNN, CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COUNCIL FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION; CATHY GADT, OWNER AND DIRECTOR OF LITTLE MISS MUFFETT DAY CARE CENTER AND PAST PRESIDENT OF PRESCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Ms. YUNDT. Thank you, Senator Metzenbaum. Yes, I do have a written statement. I thought perhaps because you'd already read it, you were trying to tell me that three minutes was all that I had. So please, for the record, I do have this.

Senator METZENBAUM. We will pick it up.

Ms. YUNDT. Of course. Let me reiterate by saying that my name is Gloria Yundt, and presently I am Chairman of Early Childhood and Recreation Technologies, as well as director of this beautiful facility that you toured.

Senator Metzenbaum, this facility that you toured services the student staff and faculty of Owens College, and there are limited openings for what we call community's children.

And it is my opinion as a day care provider that there are many, many parents, and you have had an opportunity to listen to a couple of them here today, that were it not for this facility that is heavily supported by the administration of Owens College, that we would have many fewer parents who would be able to participate in their education here; the end result being a job, getting out into the work force in order to pay taxes that support all of us.

And so I am pleased to say that—or pleased to recognize the fact that you were here and got a tour of such a facility.

Senator METZENBAUM. Tell me this. Tell me about Owens College. Is that a private college or public college? I don't know.

Ms. YUNDT. Owens Technical College is a public state-supported institution of higher education. We offer over 40 different technologies.

And we, as the campus child care facility, try to service students who have day care needs in almost every area. We are also, Senator, eclectic in that many of the student workers that we hire to assist the highly trained staff come from Diesel, come from Health, also come from the business technologies. But of course sir, we remain very closely tied to the early childhood education technology. They service us the best, our own students.

Senator METZENBAUM. Let me congratulate you and your staff and your excellent program here at Owens Tech. And based upon what I saw of the children myself—obviously that's not a very thorough inquiry, but they sure look happy, and they sure got smiling faces, and that's a pretty good beginning I would say for children.

I was interested to read in your written statement that you started working in a day care center in 1972 for $1.65 an hour. You have been involved in the day care field for many years since. In your own opinion, how far have we come, and how far do we have to go?

Ms. YUNDT. It's an interesting question, and I gave some thought to that, but when I started in 1972 that was really at the beginning of the women's movement, and so you saw more child care facilities being opened; not necessarily quality centers.

You also saw a stigma, I believe, attached to those of us who had to utilize day care. Our place really was in the home back in 1972 but I, like so many others whose testimony you have heard, didn't have a choice. So I had to put my own daughter in child care, but I was fortunate enough to be able to work right along with her.

How far have we come? Not nearly far enough, Senator. I think the idea that you took time out of your very busy schedule on such a weekend to come to look at our facility and hold this hearing indicates how far that we have come.

The issue of child care is in the forefront. It is a critical crisis issue, but we are also at a stage wherean be done about it, and your testimony or what you're about to do is in support of that.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you. Let me quote from the closing passage of your written testimony.

"Child care was never meant to replace the family, but rather to strengthen and support it." I think that's a very important statement. Would you care to elaborate on it?

Ms. YUNDT. I'd love to. We often tell parents that while we provide care for their children, we could never replace what a parent does; never hope to do that kind of thing.

On the other hand, when you provide care for children, sometimes as long as eight or nine or ten hours a day, there is something about that child that we become closely alive with.

We support the family. We try not to take over what their intent really is; and that is, bottom line, to provide a loving, learning environment for their child. We are second best.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you. Marcia DeRosa, would you like to tell us your story?

Ms. DEROSA. Yes. I'm Marcia DeRosa, and I am Director of the Child Development Center at St. Charles Hospital, who has been providing child care for its employees for 34 years.

Senator METZENBAUM. For 34 years?

Ms. DEROSA. Yes. And I just wanted to comment, in reviewing some of the material for today, I discovered that in 1956 the City of Toledo had seven day care centers at their hospitals. And at present in Toledo we have six hospitals who are providing day care for their employees. The St. Charles Child Development Center is subsidized by St. Charles Hospital, and it is subsidized to approximately a rate of 30 percent.

We consider our operation a very qualified one in the fact that our employees are employees of the hospital, and thereby receive the benefits of St. Charles Hospital which is usually very unusual. Employees of child care are paid little.

We require an Associate's Degree at our day care center. We provide such programs as Early Intervention Screening. Hoping to help the parent in their busy day by having their children's speech and hearing tested, their eyes tested, the Denver Developmental Test being done; such programs as that. We invite our children to an intergenerational program at Americare. We try to prevent—provide for our parents as much outside of the home as we possibly can.

Senator METZENBAUM. Tell me? How do you account for the fact that hospitals would appear to be the leaders in having set up day care centers before much of the rest of industry did?

Ms. DEROSA. When reviewing the material, it seems that there was and is again a critical need for nurses, and I know that our own was started when there was such a need when the hospital was developed in 1954.

There was a call to nurses, and their comments were that they could not work because they had children at home. And in our case, being located in Oregon, Ohio, there was no transportation to Oregon. Therefore, it made a lot of sense for the father to drop both mother and child off at the hospital for a day of work and also day care.

I might add that we have done some informal surveys of our parents who have been quoted, and I would say 98 percent of them have said that without hospital child care, they would have been unable to work, and especially full-time work.

Senator METZENBAUM. I have often heard good day care makes for good employees. There's nothing more important to a parent

than piece of mind about the care given to their child. Do you want to elaborate on that?

Ms. DEROSA. Yes, I'd like to. It's been said by some corporations that I've talked to that child care is only used by a minimum of employees, and I really have strong objection to that because I feel that the small number of employees that are happy with their child care increase the organization's morale throughout, and that's one of the things that our parents comment about. Their absenteeism has been reduced, their morale is much higher, and that has to provide for a much better organization.

[The prepared statement of Ms. DeRosa follows:]

STATEMENT OF MARCIA DeROSA

St. Charles Child Development Center
2600 Navarre Avenue
Oregon, Ohio 43616
(419) 698-7221

Director: Marcia DeRosa

THE ST. CHARLES CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The St. Charles Child Development Center was opened in the spring of 1954, six months after the opening of the hospital. This was brought about by the need for nursing personnel to serve the hospital. Sr. Eustelle and Sr. Baptiste initiated the project. A sister hospital, Mercy, in Springfield, Ohio, had begun in 1951. I'm assuming that the project was duplicated. There was no public transporation in Oregon. If nursing personnel could have their spouse transport their children and themselves to the hospital for the day, that would serve everyone's needs.

The first site was the auditorium of the hospital. However, this was changed soonafter, to a room on the first floor. This was one large room. Mrs. Maxine Klaus was hired as a caregiver. Her qualifications were that she was a mother of three children; a foster parent, and according to Maxine's parents. She was always attracted to babies and young children.

The center cared for children ages 6 months through kindergarten age. Breakfast and lunch were served. The cost was $1.00 per day. At times, there were 27 children in this room; when Mrs. Klaus would be assisted by an LPN or a medical supply person.

THE PRESENT PROGRAM:

In 1977, the center was moved to the former intern's dormitory, which is adjacent to the hospital. The building consisted of small apartments. It was renovated; and although the rooms are small, it suits the needs of such a facility as it has kitchens and bathroom facilities... a must in child care. We presently occupy the first and lower level of the building.

CLIENTS: 110 families are enrolled in the center with 158 children. The center is open Monday through Friday, 6:00 a.m. -5:30 p.m. Our parents pay a fee of: $1.25, $1.00, $.75 per hour according to first, second and third child enrolled. Infants, three to six months are charged $1.75 per hour. This is payroll deducted.

STAFF: There are 7 full time teachers; 4 part time teachers; a coordinator, and director. Staff qualifications are a minimum of an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood; some staff have higher degrees, i.e, Bachelor's in Speech and Hearing; Elementary Education, Child and Family, etc. Staff are employees of the hospital and receive employee benefits, which include vacation-sick time, health and dental insurance, tuition reimbursement, life insurance, etc. Our pay range is: $5.75-7.56 per hour. Performance appraisals are done on an annual basis.

PROGRAM: Our philosophy is to provide quality care,as well as educational experiences. In addition to this, our children receive speech, audiological, visual, perceptual, and dental screenings. We sponsor an intergenerational program with The Americare Nursing Home and our own gerontology department. A gym-swim program is offered to the older children at the Eastern YMCA.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT: Parent involvement is essential to our program. They are encouraged to visit the center, and some mothers nurse their babies during their lunch break. Older children may accompany their parents to lunch in the hospital cafeteria. During the year, open house, Christmas concert, bake sales, parent-teacher conferences are offered.

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES: Teachers responsibilities are as follows: to meet standards set by the Ohio Department of Human Services, educational requirement by ODHS and the hospital; to do lesson plans weekly; to communicate with parents by having conferences, doing care sheets daily, phoning parents personally, participating in professional organizations, such as the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and its local affiliate, the Toledo Area Association for the Education of Young Children.

EMPLOYEE AND HOSPITAL BENEFITS: No official survey has been done by the hospital regarding employee morale, absenteeism, etc. However, an informal survey has been done at the center of its present enrollees. Parents (98%) saw the center as a benefit and one that enabled them to be able to work comfortably, knowing that their child was onsite and close to the Emergency Center, as well as being well cared for. The hospital does advertise its center in its recruitment efforts, and has seen it as a valuable tool. St. Charles subsidizes this program.

TOLEDO CHILD CARE FACILITIES: Toledo is a city that has six hospital child care facilities. Mercy Hospital, our sister hospital opened its doors in 1982. Other hospitals that have child care facilities are: Medical College of Ohio, Riverside, St. Vincent, and Toledo. Each operates their center in a different manner; i.e, franchised, operated under a separate entity; on or off site, open to the community, or just for employees.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: NAEYC: THE NATIONAL ASSOCATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN: TAAEYC: AN AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION, TOLEDO AREA ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN.

NAHACCP: National Assocation for Hospital Affiliated Child Care Programs This was established to specifically meet the needs of hospital child care directors. It was established in 1980. It provides preconference tours and speakers that address the changing hospital care environment and what that means to our facilities. The group comes together at the NAEYC national conference, as well as meeting in state groups.

Senator METZENBAUM. I want both of you, while I go on with the other witnesses, to be ready to respond as to what you think is the single most important thing that Government could do vis-a-vis day care, but I'll come back to you in a moment. Cathy Nunn, we are happy to have you with us.

Ms. NUNN. Thank you, Senator. Senator, I have observed day care centers as a parent. I have two children, one on the way, and I have observed day care as a professional. I've taught in a day care center, and I have directed a day care center in Houston, Texas.

I am currently a CDA representative—that's a Child Development Associate Representative of the National Credentialing Program. It's under the umbrella of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, which is a group of professionals in early childhood education, one of their focuses being research in the development of young children.

As a representative I travel to various day care centers within a 100-miles radius of Toledo, and I evaluate, observe and advise candidates that are seeking the CDA credential.

Being a representative has brought to focus for me, more than ever before, the need for training employees in day care centers. As I mentioned in my observations as a parent, I have seen many day care centers here in Toledo. And some of them are not as good as others, and I think one of the key things is that not only are we going to focus on the quanity of day care centers—and that is definitely a need to increase the number of day care centers, and in particular in the downtown area and in the low-income areas—but also to better the quality of day care centers. And I believe that one of the ways that we can improve the quality is through training, on-going training.

The Government makes—has a law now that insists that employees of day care centers who do not hold an Associate Degree have to go through three years of in-service training. That's wonderful, that's great. But beyond that we need to also have on-going training so that employees can stay abreast of the issues in early childhood education, employees can keep up with the needs of their children, the needs of their parents, and make it a better day care system.

Senator METZENBAUM. Do I understand you say that the State requires three years of professional training before you can be a day care center director? Is that what you said?

Ms. NUNN. No, that's not what I'm saying. I'm saying that employees, teachers in the day care center, are required to have three years of in-service training.

Senator METZENBAUM. I see.

Ms. NUNN. Okay? Now——

Senator METZENBAUM. Is that a realistic approach?

Ms. NUNN. Pardon me?

Senator METZENBAUM. Is that a realistic approach, assuming we expand substantially the number of day care centers? Is it possible we'll be at a point where there won't be adequate number of people trained?

Ms. NUNN. Is it possible that—excuse me.

Senator METZENBAUM. Is it possible there won't be enough trained personnel if we expand the number of day care facilities?

Ms. NUNN. Yes, it is possible.

Senator METZENBAUM. And tell me about this field as a means of earning a livelihood. I've struck a sensitive cord. What kind of money would you say is the range for those who work in day care centers?

Ms. NUNN. Oh, I think the range could be from 7,000 to 10,000 a year. Is that high?

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE. That's high. Very high.

Senator METZENBAUM. That's high.

Ms. NUNN. Sorry.

Ms. YUNDT. Ranging from 3.35 an hour or minimum wage to maybe $7 based upon experience and training, but most people work for minimum wage; or many of them work for minimum wage.

Ms. NUNN. Sorry, that's my wishful thinking.

Senator METZENBAUM. Okay. And in order for people to be able to work in day care centers, do I understand you to say that they must have in-service training? Define that term for me.

Ms. NUNN. There are workshops that are held; in particular by the Toledo Area Association for the Education of Young Children. There are workshops that day care employees can attend, they can fill out an in-service training form; and that can serve as a way of stimulating and bringing them abreast of new procedures, new approaches to working with young children.

Senator METZENBAUM. But I'm missing something.

Ms. NUNN. Yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. If you want to work in a day care center, you need three years of in-service training or know any——

Ms. NUNN. If you do not have a two-year-in-associate degree, yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. But what about——

Ms. NUNN. You need 15 hours.

Senator METZENBAUM. But this lady who was here who testified earlier—I can't remember her name—but she said she—works in this day care center. She doesn't have three years of training. Is there some——

MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE. In process.

Senator METZENBAUM. Pardon?

MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE. In process.

Senator METZENBAUM. Oh, it's in process. You can be working there and in process. Well, then what happens? Now you have been there three years, what happens on the one year plus three years? What does that do? That gives you some certificate or anything?

Ms. NUNN. That increases the pay.

Senator METZENBAUM. That what?

Ms. NUNN. Increases your pay.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE. No.

Senator METZENBAUM. If the employer wants to do it, I gather it's a——

Ms. NUNN. I'm sorry.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Nunn follows:]

To: Senator Howard Metzenbaum
and U.S. Senate Committee

From: Cathy S. Nunn
Child Development Associate Rep.

Date: May 21, 1987

Re: Written Statement for hearing at Owens Tech.

Senator and committee members, I have taught in a day care center in Washington, D.C., I have taught and Directed a day care program in Houston, Texas. I left the center to start my family. We moved to Toledo shortly after our first born. Realizing that living in Ohio brought me closer to my alma mater, Univ. of Mich., where I received my MA in Early Childhood Education, I was inspired to be back in the midwest.

Since, I have been in the home raising my small children, I have also observed day care from not only as a professional but as a parent.

I am presently a Child Development Associate Rep. of the National Credentialing Program which is now under the umbrella of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). As a CDA Rep. I travel to various day care centers (within a 100 mile radius of Toledo) to observe, evaluate, and advise candidates who are in training to receive a CDA Credential. The majority of the candidates going through this training program are in the Head Start program. The reason is the cost, the Federal Govt. pays for the Head Start employee. The fee exceeds $300.00 for the CDA Credential, too much for many day care workers to pay with the salaries they receive.

Senator, my professional background and observations have brought me here and I would like to encourage you to take a seriuos look at the training aspect of day care. Across the country our educational system is poor. We must start now.! Start with day care and train the teachers in the classroom with the children. It's not enough to sit them behind a desk to listen and memorize. It is imperative to train them in the classroom setting. As John Dewey, an educational professional, said " You learn by doing."

Day care needs to be recognized as a professional educational system. Parents NEED DAY CARE and they NEED QUALITY day care. One way to assure this quality is to have separate financial assistance set aside for day care centers to train their staff in programs such as the CDA program.

With the Scholarship Act, which provides a total of $1 million to supplement current training activities, progress is being made. However the need surpasses this amount by far.

This hearing is aimed at finding new ways to ease the burden of Day Care expense, which like health care coverage serves as a bar to persons wanting to escape the welfare system. Chances are that a solution to the problem will lead to substantial growth in the quanity of centers, especially if Federal incentives are in place.

My charge to Federal legislators is to seize the opportunity not only to add to the quanity of Day Care operations but to enhance the quality as well. The start given Head Start children in academia ought to be provided all children, whether they find themselves in public or private settings.

Improving the quality of instruction for young children will pay dividends this country can't afford to go without.

Senator METZENBAUM. I'm learning. It's obvious that we are into an area that there's some difference——

Ms. YUNDT. Senator, Senator. Cheri Sterman who will be coming up to testify shortly—Cheri Sterman the office director of Office of Child Care Services——

Senator METZENBAUM. Yes, yes.

Ms. YUNDT. I am sure she would be willing to step forward to speak on that in order to clarify it, and I think we do need to have that clarified.

Senator METZENBAUM. Cheri Sterman, why don't you stand up and tell us the facts.

Ms. STERMAN. There are 15 hours required of in-service training.

Senator METZENBAUM. Well, come forward, I think, and sit down so you can get into the mike so we will have it recorded. Your name is Cheri Sterman. You're the director for the State of Ohio, the Office of Child Care Services. Okay.

Ms. STERMAN. Thank you.

Senator METZENBAUM. Tell us the facts.

Ms. STERMAN. The in-service training requirement is for 15 hours per year until completion of 45 hours. That could be done over a three-year period, or if you finish your 45 hours, that can be completed before three years is up.

A variety of training opportunities can count for those 15 hours. People could go to some Saturday workshops, evening workshops, have a speaker come into their day care center and talk about child development, nutrition, child guidance practices, discipline.

So it's not three full years. I think part of the confusion was it almost sounded like more than an Associate Degree of college. It's 15 hours per year till it totals 45 hours.

Senator METZENBAUM. But if you take 45 hours in one week?

Ms. STERMAN. Then you would be finished.

Senator METZENBAUM. All right. But Sheila Benson I would guess, she now works here.

Ms. STERMAN. That's right.

Senator METZENBAUM. Did she have to have 45 hours of such training before she came here, or can they hire somebody off the streets?

Ms. STERMAN. That's right. All you need to be hired at a day care center is a high school diploma and be over 18 years of age. Then after your first year of working a day care center, they look for the documentation that you attended 15 clock hours—that's not college credit hours—just 15 clock hours of workshops on child development, child abuse prevention, first aid, communicable disease.

Senator METZENBAUM. Then what do you get?

Ms. STERMAN. You get certificates that document that you did complete the 15 hours.

Senator METZENBAUM. And with that you now go back to your employer and you say, "I've got this document. I should no longer get $3.35 an hour, I should get $3.65 an hour"?

Ms. STERMAN. There's no requirement on the pay increases. It's up to each employer.

Senator METZENBAUM. Query. What does that do for you? I guess what I'm saying is, why does anybody want to get that certificate?

Ms. STERMAN. Well, the reason what it—that it's a requirement and what it does for teachers——

Senator METZENBAUM. Is it a requirement?

Ms. STERMAN. Yes, it is. It's a requirement, and the reason it's a requirement and what it does for you is it better enables you to work with children in appropriate ways. What we have found since this new requirement's gone into effect—is that the teachers want even more training. They get a taste of it, and they want to learn more about young children because it helps them so much.

Senator METZENBAUM. But as I understand it, it's a requirement, and yet you've also said to me you can work in the facility without having had that training?

Ms. STERMAN. That's right, yes. You can be hired with just a high school diploma. And then after your first year of employment you need to have at least 15 hours. By the second year—end of the second year you would have had to have 30 hours. And then by the end of the third year you would have had to have completed your 45 hours.

Senator METZENBAUM. I see.

Ms. STERMAN. If you complete them all, like you said in the first week, then that's all the training that's required.

Senator METZENBAUM. Do you have to go off premises in order to get that training?

Ms. STERMAN. No, that training can happen at day care centers. In fact, many of the administrators of day care centers are qualified to be doing the presentations, or they bring in other speakers to their day care center.

Senator METZENBAUM. And is it customary for the employer to pay the employees for participating in those workshops, or do they go do that on their own?

Ms. STERMAN. That's up to the day care center.

Senator METZENBAUM. That what?

Ms. STERMAN. That's up to the day care center. That's not a licensing issue that we would be involved in.

Senator METZENBAUM. Okay. I think you have helped clarify, and we will call you back; but meanwhile we will get Cathy Gadt who is in, I think—do you own or operate a for-profit day care center?

Ms. GADT. Yes, I have three of them.

Senator METZENBAUM. Three of them?

Ms. GADT. Uh-huh.

Senator METZENBAUM. And you are past President of Toledo Area Preschool Association, right?

Ms. GADT. That's correct.

Senator METZENBAUM. Tell us anything you would like, and we will listen. Then we'll be set.

Ms. GADT. All right. Basically being a private for profit center, we have a number of problems that I relate to that a lot of the other centers don't because by being either non-profit or hospital run or church run, usually those people have things available to them—either food subsidies, they are backed or financially supported by the hospitals, the churches they are in or et cetera.

In a private for-profit day care I own one of my own buildings, I lease another building. The expenses I have and the maintenance of the buildings, and all the day-to-day expenses are coming

through my pocket and the income I make. We don't have anywhere to turn for food subsidies, et cetera. If I took Title 20 children, there would be some things that would be available, but at this point we don't do that. So like I say, basically most of our expenses and that come out of our pocket, and it's extremely hard now.

The last center I started two years ago that we built the building, with the new fire codes that are in place now, the state building codes, the Ohio—or the Toledo Building Codes—to bring a day care center up to code right now is extremely expensive.

To start a new day care is extremely expensive. Most of the costs that go into those buildings, you won't receive any benefit from, that you can't get your money back out in the day care business. The rates that we charge the parents, things like that, basically take care of expenses. There's not a lot of extra money. Being in private for-profit day care, my teachers do not make anywhere close to the $7 range. Most of our girls start a little over minimum wage, and girls that I've had that have been with me five or six years are basically not even making $5 an hour right now. And there is not money in the day care business—in my business anyways—that I could afford to pay them much more than what I'm doing, and I don't see any relief for those teachers.

A lot of my girls have two-year Associate Degrees and are making, you know, very little money compared to the schooling that they have had and things like that. And like I say, by the time we take care of expenses and the mortgage payments and the utilities and the food and things like that for those—the children that we have and the expense for the equipment and—to run a quality day care, you need adequate staffing, you need equipment, you need supplies. By the time all that money goes into all that, there's not a lot of extra.

Senator METZENBAUM. What is it—what's the charge for a child to attend your school?

Ms. GADT. For an infant it's $60 a week, and for——

Senator METZENBAUM. $50?

Ms. GADT. 60 for an infant and 50 for a preschool child.

Senator METZENBAUM. 60 and 50. And—and what's the normal child/pupil relationship? Not child, the teacher.

Ms. GADT. Well the State—right, child/staff relation. The State sets those guidelines of what legally we have to maintain, and in our centers I'm a little bit under that. So basically for an infant the child/staff ratio is one per five if you have just——

Senator METZENBAUM. One per five?

Ms. GADT. One per five. One teacher with five infants. And in the older children, the two-year-olds I think are one per seven now; the three-year olds are one per twelve; and four-year olds are one per fourteen.

Senator METZENBAUM. You have been in the day care business for some time.

Ms. GADT. Ten years now.

Senator METZENBAUM. Ten years. And what incentives do you think we should provide for the day care industry?

Ms. GADT. I think some of the incentives that are needed for private for-profit centers are different than the things for the other

centers. Like I say, I know there are corporation tax incentives now, things like that, for corporations to start day cares. Low interest loans—I know you were addressing something in that area—are definitely an incentive for people to start, for private individuals to start day cares because right now for a private individual to go into day care and to get a building and renovate it or to start from scratch, it isn't cost effective. You can't do it. It's too expensive.

Senator METZENBAUM. Is it tough to get a loan?

Ms. GADT. Very tough.

Senator METZENBAUM. Would a Government Guaranteed Loan Program help you?

Ms. GADT. It would definitely help, yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. We'd like to work with you because you come in from the profit sector, and I don't have any problem about that at all. But it seems to me it's a field that is extremely challenging and difficult, because my mathematical mind can tell me what your gross receipts can be and—and what you have to pay a person to take care of them, and I must confess I can think of a lot better businesses.

Ms. GADT. That's the truth. I haven't had a paycheck.

Senator METZENBAUM. I was in the parking business when I was in the private sector; much easier to put the cars on the lot then to let them just sit there, and they produce revenue. Not so easy with children.

Ms. GADT. That's the truth.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Gadt follows:]

Little Miss Muffet Educational Day Care

4960 Monroe Street
(across from Franklin Pk. Mall)
Toledo, Ohio 43623
474-5741

STATEMENT OF CATHY GADT

May 20, 1987

Senator Metzenbaum
Federal Building
Toledo, Ohio

Re: Metzenbaum Day Care Legislation

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I would like to take this time to address a number of issues concerning private, for profit, day care centers. I have owned and operated seven child care centers in Toledo in the past 10 years and I am finding it increasing difficult to finance and operate each center. I am now operating 4 centers, the newest was built 2 years ago, and at that time the building and fire codes requirements almost were cost prohibitive. These requirements are needed for the safety of the children, but when a sprinkler system alone can cost over $10,000 for an infant area and a fire alarm system, smoke detectors, and many other safety features are needed, the cost of remodeling a building is more than a day care income can afford. We have no tax incentives, and when I had talked to people in regards to a small business loan, the information I received implied that if I was not dealing with inner city, etc. that these funds were not available. I am aware that non-profit day care can receive food subsidies along with day care that provides for Title XX children. For a day care center such as mine where most of my parents are single parent families with a moderate income, there are no programs available. My parents make just over the income to be classified as "low income" so therefore I am not intitled to any type of government help.

I run a quality child care, which means I meet small child-staff ratios, this increases my payroll. The state laws require us to give children a well balanced lunch plus snack, grocery bills for one center with 50 children total over $150.00 weekly. We have a mortgage payment, utilities, craft supplies, taxes, etc. and income barely meets these expenses each month. A non-profit center normally has low or no rental payments, they have tax breaks. Center which are run by churches have many atvantages, hospital run centers are usually subsidized by the hospital. In a privately run center we have no one to turn to for assistance. Corporate day care is given tax

incentives that are not available to a private individual. I would sell all of my privately operated centers if it were possible to operate a corporate center. In this way I would be guaranteed a pay check each week and know that the corporation would be able to fund the expense. At the present time I do not receive a regular pay check, If major improvements are needed, new equipment, or unexpected breakdown of the furnace etc. happen this all must be covered by any surplus income the school would have. Insurance costs alone have tripled and many centers are unable to find coverage.

For a private individual to decide to start a center, it is very discouraging. Staff members with college degrees are discouraged to start work making $3.50 per hr. Administrators are frustrated because we cannot raise our rates much more or our parents cannot afford to stay and take the children to a private sitter. State laws have become stricter which creates more expense to keep a center up to code. Taxes are always increasing, and yet our income is remaining close to the same.

If many more incentives for non-profit and corporate day care centers are created with out doing something for the private, for profit centers, we will soon be priced out of the business. Any help in your legislation to help alleviate the many problems arising in effectively operating a private-for profit center would be greately appreciated.

Sincerely,

Cathy Gadt

Cathy Gadt
Administrator/Owner

Senator METZENBAUM. And you have more than five or seven to take care of at a time. So I can see that it—from a profit-making standpoint it must be extremely challenging. Buy a sprinkler system, I gather it costs $10,000. That is not exactly hay when you are talking about $50 or $60 a week per child. I'm going to come back to you. What is the one single thing, Ms. Yundt, that you think the Federal Government can do?

Ms. YUNDT. I think what the Federal Government needs to do is restore, maintain and expand the existing programs. I'm speaking specifically of the Title 20 Social Services Block Grant, Federal Child Care Food Program and the Dependent Care Tax Credit. Specifically the——

Senator METZENBAUM. Sure got a lot in in that one answer, didn't you?

Ms. YUNDT. I had time, Senator, to prepare for that answer.

Senator METZENBAUM. I see. Ms. DeRosa, what do you think is the one single thing the Government can do?

Ms. DEROSA. I would say guaranteed loans to build day care centers, and if I could include the guaranteed loans to build day care centers, and in addition to that I don't think we can let go of the fact the training—the training for child care professionals.

Senator METZENBAUM. Training for child care professionals.

Ms. DEROSA. Uh-huh.

Senator METZENBAUM. Ms. Nunn?

Ms. NUNN. I have to agree with Marcia DeRosa that the training——

Senator METZENBAUM. That the training——

Ms. NUNN. Yes, training is a key component, and that we need financial assistance for the day care employees to obtain this training.

Senator METZENBAUM. I have four daughters. Assume one of them wanted to work in the field of day care. Where would she turn in order to get such training?

Ms. YUNDT. Oh, I'd like to speak to that, Senator, if I can.

Senator METZENBAUM. No commercials. No commercials.

Ms. YUNDT. It has to be an institution of higher education. I'm in the business of providing child care professionals, trained child day care professionals, to work in the field. So a two-year degree, in my opinion, and the opinion of many people sitting up here, is the absolute minimum.

You spoke a few minutes ago about the fact that we're—we're experiencing a shortage. We are experiencing a shortage. People go into it with a commitment. They want to work with young children, but you can't afford to live on what we make; and if you can't afford to live on it, sooner or later it's going to catch up with you, and they take other jobs. And the turnover rate in early childhood—the turnover rate in early childhood is 40 percent, twice what it is in any other industry. That's a crisis.

Senator METZENBAUM. Cathy Gadt, do you want to say what you think the one most important thing the Federal Government could do is?

Ms. GADT. In some way it needs to back any type child care programs that would benefit the staffing, things like that, because the big thing in day care has always been the very low income of any

of their staff members. Child care staff members are very low paid and cannot maintain those jobs, like they say, for very long.

Now with the new state laws that require the in-service training and things like that, a lot of that is coming out of those same staff people's paychecks, because day care centers such as mine can only afford to cover some of those expenses for them. We can't cover all of it. Half of the day care workers in private for-profit day care do not have any health care benefits or anything either. That comes out of their pocket also.

So there's not a lot of benefits for being in this field right now except for the love for children.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you very much. I want to say to the panel that I predict that in the not far distant future indeed there will be more day care centers, there will be a greater demand for trained professionals in day care centers; and for those who are interested, I firmly believe that we will pass the point soon where you can hire people for minimum wages to take care of such pressure—precious items as—as babies. And I think that paying people, really who I think require the kind of self-sacrifice to be taken care of—we pay people more to flip hamburgers than we pay them to flip the children in diapers.

I appreciate your testimony. We are going to take about a three- to five-minute recess until we hear our—and then we will hear our final panel.

[Recess.]

Senator METZENBAUM. Our final panel consists of Dr. Suzanne L. McFarland, President of the Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children, Professor of Elementary and Early Childhood Education at the University of Toledo; Mr. Mark Real, Director of Children's Defense Fund of Ohio and a long-time friend of the Chair's; and Ms. Cheri Sterman, Director of the State of Ohio Office of Child Care Services. Very happy to welcome all of you.

You know our rules about being brief, but Dr. McFarland, please proceed.

STATEMENTS OF DR. SUZANNE L. McFARLAND, PRESIDENT OF THE OHIO ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN, PROFESSOR OF ELEMENTARY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO; MR. MARK REAL, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND OF OHIO; AND MS. CHERI STERMAN, DIRECTOR OF THE STATE OF OHIO OFFICE OF CHILD CARE SERVICES

Dr. MCFARLAND. Thank you. I'd like to add to my list of titles there that I'm also a mom who has had children and still do—I still do have children in care in order to support the full-time employment of both my husband and me. And then also for the past two years I've been chairing the Child Care Committee for the Toledo-Lucas County Council of Human Services, which is the planing branch of United Way. And during those two years we did some fairly extensive research in the Lucas County area about day care availability, affordability and so forth.

When I wrote my testimony, I conceptionalized it into four areas: one being availability, one being affordability, one being quality, and one being public information.

And just to reiterate, if we could get a profile of availability. If you are a parent who needs care between the hours of 6:00 in the morning and 6:00 in the evening, and if in fact you have a preschool child between the ages of three and five, and if you have an income of at least $21,000 a year, then you're the best—that person is the best able to find care. If you are an employee——

Senator METZENBAUM. Say that again; would you please?

Dr. MCFARLAND. If you are a parent with a preschool child three to five years, if you make at least $21,000 a year, and if you need care during the day, you tend to have the least trouble finding care.

If you are a low-income parent; if you have a handicapped child; if you have an older child who needs after-school care; if you are a parent with a child under the age of two; or if you work second and third shift, which is a reality for many of our parents in the Toledo area since most of our industry is auto based, then you do in fact have a great deal of difficulty finding care.

When the Day Care Committee for the Lucas County Council of Human Services was doing its fact-finding, a gathering—fact-finding and information gathering—we were fortunate enough to have the personnel director from a local auto-based industry come and talk with us.

And he shared his concern and the fact that his industry has really begun to look at the quality of life of its employees. And under that he stated that day care needs certainly he puts under the category of quality of life; and he said that he feels a great deal of empathy for a mother whose child calls while she's working on second or third shift, in tears, the baby sitter just left or the baby sitter didn't go, you know, show up; and so that mom has to leave the production line and go home to care for those children. And he said he's really caught between the empathy he feels for that mother and the fact that he needs that worker there in order to make production quotas.

So when we start to talk about, I guess, out of the normal care, then we have a whole different availability problem that we are really not meeting.

We have heard a lot this morning about affordability, and the fact that—one figure that I didn't hear advanced this morning was the fact that the National Day Care Campaign indicates that you should not spend more than about 10 percent of your gross income for child care. I would submit to you that many parents are, in fact, spending a great deal more than that.

In Lucas County, Senator, the mean salary for a female-headed household is $9,300. If you compare $9,300 and take 10 percent of that, $930, you can readily see that a woman——

Senator METZENBAUM. Whose figures were these?

Dr. MCFARLAND. These were from the 1980 Census Bureau that our committee collected. So we're gonna——

Senator METZENBAUM. No, I mean, who made this rule up?

Dr. MCFARLAND. This was the National Day Care Campaign—that just like, you know, we have indicators about 25 percent of

your salary should go to housing and so forth—the National Day Care Campaign indicated that it would be about 10 percent of the family's gross income that should go to day care.

Senator METZENBAUM. And who put on the National Day Care Campaign?

Dr. MCFARLAND. I don't know. Help me out, Cheri, who was always involved in that?

Ms. STERMAN. Well, what they were saying is that the reality is most parents pay more than 10 percent, but when you look at all their other expenses, that's really about all they can afford when they divide up their income and their expenditures. But their point is that parents are ending up spending far more than 10 percent, but that it's not really there in their budget.

Dr. MCFARLAND. All right. So in affordability we found that, you know, there's a large group of parents in—to bring it home in Lucas County—that just have the difficulty between matching what they are—can pay and the going rates for child care.

Also, you know, as a rule of thumb the younger the child, the more expensive the care, when the preschool care is less, and toddler care a little less—or a little more—and then infant care a little bit more. I'd like to talk about the quality issue——

Senator METZENBAUM. Your time has about run out.

Dr. MCFARLAND. Oh, darn. Can I do it real quick?

Senator METZENBAUM. The Senator conducts the filibuster.

Dr. MCFARLAND. Okay. University professors are right behind you.

Senator METZENBAUM. In your written testimony you talk about special day care needs that are presently not being met.

Dr. MCFARLAND. Yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. Infant care, after-school care, and care for disabled children. I think you covered the point that you are really saying that there is more day care available during normal working hours; but at the second and third shift, if it's an unusual situation, if it's the handicapped child, then it is——

Dr. MCFARLAND. It's impossible.

Senator METZENBAUM [continuing]. Much more challenging, and it's also challenging in part if it's infant care as distinguished from those from two years old and older.

Dr. MCFARLAND. That's right.

Senator METZENBAUM. In your opinion—why don't we relate the story which you include in your written testimony about the auto producer and his perspectives on day care for his assembly workers.

Dr. MCFARLAND. All right. This was the executive from one of the major auto producers in Lucas County who came to our committee and shared with us his empathy for the mother who had to leave the production line and go home because a baby sitter didn't show up or because a baby sitter suddenly left with a boy friend or whatever.

And the fact that—that industry executives now are having—I think are much more in tuned with looking at the quality of life of their workers, but at the same time they have production quotas that they need to meet.

Senator METZENBAUM. You talk about—about the costs—make a strong case regarding the need for increased wages for day care workers.

Dr. MCFARLAND. Yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. You make a strong link between those wages in quality of care at day care centers. As you know, the Chair has already addressed himself to this issue.

Dr. MCFARLAND. Yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. But what do we do? Government cannot come in and mandate that day care centers pay $7 an hour when day care centers can't find the funds to keep going at $3.35 or $4 or 4.50 an hour. What are you suggesting is a solution?

Dr. MCFARLAND. Well, as I stated in my testimony, when I think about day care, the analogy that I come up with is that of a complex puzzle, and the fact that each piece of that puzzle makes a whole. And when we look at the whole, child care providers' salaries are one piece of that.

Now, this morning I was glad that you asked the question of the previous panel about what each of them would suggest as what the Federal Government could do.

I'd like to generalize that a bit and say that it is not unprecedented in this country that we have a national policy about a certain issue. We have a national policy about the care of our elderly with Medicare. We have a national policy in this country about benefits after retirement or employment with Social Security.

Now, I'm well aware of the financial baggage that those programs bring. But what I'm suggesting is that we need to sit down and look at the complexity of the issue, and say, "We need to have a National Day Care Policy." And part of that policy has to be some way to bring subsidy and relief, not only to parents who are trying to purchase care, but also to providers who are trying to provide that care, to people in order to motivate them to get the training which insures quality. It's ludicrous in my position, Senator, for a young woman or man to spend four years at the University of Toledo—regardless of how great our program is—for them to leave, and then for them—for me to say to them, "Guess what? You are going to earn a mean income of $6.51, and on top of that we're not going to give you any benefits either." And so I think we have to look at the whole puzzle, and there needs to be a way that we build in to providers the subsidy to pay their employees as well as helping parents afford the care.

Senator METZENBAUM. I support the proposition that you have set forth, and I have indicated that previously. My feeling is that those who are concerned about day care must constantly make the point that adequate day care is a way of cutting our budget deficit.

Dr. MCFARLAND. Yes.

Senator METZENBAUM. It puts more people back to work.

Dr. MCFARLAND. That's right.

Senator METZENBAUM. And I would say to those who are concerned about it, this button tells it somewhat, but not in quite as succinct terms as the Chair thinks it should be stated. And I would say that—yeah, $1 for day care saves $3 on welfare.

But I'm not even sure that tells it completely. Welfare is a pejorative word in Washington. And so we've got to make it jobs, put-

ting people to work. That is an issue that everybody agrees to. And when we make it that by putting them to work—by seeing to it that there's day care, that we are actually doing much to help balance the Federal budget—we are going to help sell our program a lot better, and I'm on your side.

Dr. MCFARLAND. Yes.

[The prepared statement of Dr. McFarland follows:]

STATEMENT OF SUZANNE McFARLAND

Testimony,Day Care Hearings
Friday, May 22, 1987
Dr. Suzanne McFarland

My name is Suzanne McFarland. Before I begin, I would like to thank the Senator for the opportunity to speak at this hearing and for his interest in day care. It is yet another way that he demonstrates his support as a public official for children and families.

My interest in and knowledge about day care has come about in many different ways. First, I am a parent who has and continues to use day care services to support the full time employment of both my husband and me. Second, I am an early childhood educator, my position being Professor of Early Childhood Education at The University of Toledo. Third,I am President of The Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children - a professional organization with almost three thousand members who work on behalf of young children. Fourth, I am a community volunteer who was instrumental in starting the YWCA Child Care Center and from 1984 through 1987 chairing the Child Care Committee of the Toledo-Lucas County Council for Human Services, the planning branch of United Way. It is the data collected by that committee that will be laced throughout this testimony.

Why is it important to be concerned about day care? First, day care supports employment which in turn supports the economy by freeing people to work. Second, day care supports families and children's quality of life by providing a reliable, dependable, appropriate alternate to the care of children so that parents can provide for their families. Day care then, serves as one important aspect in understanding the interdependent nature of contemporary society.

Day Care is like a puzzle, each piece connected to the whole, but incomplete unless all the pieces are there. The focus of this testimony will be to identify the pieces to the day care puzzle as well as explain those pieces. The areas that will addressed are availability, affordability, quality, and public information.

Day care availability not surpisingly, refers to the supply and type of care from which consumers can choose. Parents with nonhandicapped preschool children, who need care during normal working hours (6:30 A.M. to 6:00P.M.),and who earn $25,000 a year have the best chance of finding appropriate care for their children. In a study done by the Child Care Committee of the Toledo-Lucas County Council of Human Services (reported hereafter as the Child Care Study), it was found that in Lucas County there are eight full time child care slots in licensed centers for children between the ages of three to five years to every one slot for infants and three full time child care slots in licensed centers for children between the ages of three to five years to every three slots for toddlers. Yet, the single largest group of women returning to the labor force are women with children

under the age of two. One can readily see the wide gap between supply and demand for infant care.

There are other types of care equally as hard to find as infant care. These include care for the handicapped and before and after school care. The results of the Child Care Study found that the presently existing school aged programs can only care for 1% of the children in Lucas County who are between the ages of 6 and 13, yet data indicate that 72% of women with children of this age range are in the labor force.

Data for the availability of care for handicapped children are the most dismal. Of the full-time licensed centers, 36% percent stated that they serve special needs children. It should be noted, however, that special needs can be defined as a slight developmental delay to severe and multiple handicapped children. Experience dictates that these latter categories of special needs children have no care options available except for very costly in-home care.

Beyond the age and/or type of child that must be accommodated when seeking care, parents' needs and schedules must also be considered. Not all parents work during the day. Particularly, industrial based communities have round the clock shifts and therefore, a need for round the clock care.

This point was graphically articulated by the personnel manager of a large auto producer in Toledo when he visited the Child Care Committee during its data and fact finding phase. He was talking about the changing role of business and industry in the lives of its workers. Among the changes are business sponsorship of all types of health fitness and diagnostic programs because business is concerned about the quality of life of its workers. Of equal concern to this particular executive was the relationship between the lack of dependable child care and worker productivity and attendance on the second shift. He stated examples of children calling the plant scared and in tears because a babysitter didn't show up or left with a boyfriend rather than staying with them. He stated that his loyalty is divided since the mother needs to go to comfort and care for the children while at the same time he needs that worker in the plant to meet production quotas. An added dimension in this complex problem is the reluctance of the business community to become involved in the direct sponsorship of programs because of insurance and liability concerns.

Other areas of severely limited care are sick care and short term emergency care when family members become ill or for some other reason must leave their children.

One other area where a critical lack of care exists is for teenage mothers who cannot return to school without daycare. For this group of child care consumer, special programs are needed so as to combine child care with the support and education these young parents must have to help them in their new roles as mothers and providers.

An added factor that must be considered in the equation of availability is that of cost and affordability. The National Day Care Campaign has recommended that a family's

expenditure for child care not exceed 10% of its yearly gross income. But, Children's Defense Fund has found that many families spend well over that percentage with day care being the fourth largest expense in the family's budget.

The cost of providing child care in a day care center varies with the age of the child -- the younger the child, the higher the cost of the care. In the Child Care Study, we found that the average cost of full-time (40 hours per week) center based care in 1985 for a child between the ages of 3 to 5 years was $2,100 a year, &2,175 a year for toddlers and $2,375 a year for infants. Using the figures cited above, a family should have an income of at least $21,000 per year to stay within the 10% recommended limit.

Based on the 1980 Census of Population and Housing for Lucas County (U.S.) Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census), the mean income for families with children under the age of 18 years of age is $23,941. Nearly one-fourth of the women in the labor force who have children under six years of age are single parents. The mean income for female-headed households, no husband present, with children under 18 years of age is $9,326 a year. Therefore, for most families, particularly single women who are head of households, paying for child care is financially difficult if not impossible.

But, the most disturbing piece of this economic picture is the fact that it is the child care provider herself who is subsidizing child care. Based on the results of the Child Care Study, providers in Lucas County earn a mean hourly salary of $4.89 in full-time centers and $4.64 an hour in part-time centers with the majority receiving no benefits. Unfortunately, level of education seems to have limited effect on the wages paid to employees of child care centers, except at the highest level of training. Average wages for full-time providers as affected by education are as stated below for Lucas County:

LEVEL OF TRAINING	AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE
High School Diploma	$ 4.34
2-Year Associate Degree in Early Childhood	$ 5.01
4-Year Degree in Early Childhood	$ 6.51

Enough averages, let's talk about reality for the some child care workers as of this very date in time. On the campus of the University of Toledo, we have a very fine day care facility that is run by a parent advisory board that supports students and faculty by providing for the care of their children so they can teach and learn.The program does enjoysome University financial support. The director has a four year degree in early childhood/child development. She is presently making $7.00 per hour with no benefits. Her teachers make an average of $5.25 per hour and starting aides $4.00 per hour with no benefits. Compare this to the $6.48

per hour starting salary of a custodial worker at The University of Toledo. And that's not all. The custodial worker would receive almost 27% of his/her salary in benefits. No wonder we have a 43% percent turn over rate in child care workers in this country every year.

The low salaries and incredible turn over rate has serious implications for maintaining quality in child care. Training in early childhood development for child care providers is a critical factor in maintaining quality in programs. Yet, it is very difficult to attract and keep staff when salaries dictate that the person will live near or below the poverty level.

In addition to trained staff, there are others factors which help achieve quality. These include an appropriate number of adults to children; group sizes that insure feelings of security rather than the chaos that can occur when too many children are put together; procedures which provide for a healthy and safe environment; age appropriate curriculum; sufficient and age appropriate materials; pleasant surroundings; adequate and nutritious snacks and meals; realistic behavior expectation with help in social development and self control rather than harsh and punitive discipline techniques; and support for parents and recogition of their importance in the lives of their children.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children has developed a special program called The National Academy of Early Childhood Programs through which programs that meet the criteria of quality as set forth by the Academy can earn an accreditation. As a side note, I'm proud to say that Ohio has the largest number of accredited centers in the country. As a profession we know "what good is". We just need to find ways to insure that level of "goodness" in all programs. For when we do, the data collected by High Scope Foundation indicates that there will be long term benefits to society if young children, particularly low income children, have quality early childhood programs.

The last area to be discussed is the need and role of public information. In my opinion we are way beyond the point when any one sector of our society can denounce its need to be involved in the delivery of quality, affordable, child care to all working families who need it.

Parents need reliable support systems to help them make appropriate child care decisions for their children as well as up to date information about the availability of care. Political leaders need to know that dollars spent in child care make good economic sense. Children's Defense Fund has found that for every dollar spent on subsidized child care, three dollars are saved in welfare. Business leaders need to know that corporate sponsorship of child care can have positive outcomes for business, parents, and children. Highlights of a study sponsored by the United States Department of Labor indicated that in 305 companies that sponsored child care programs, 88% reported an increase in an ability to attract new employees, 72% reported a decrease in

employee absenteeism, and 57% reported lower worker turnover and attrition rates.

Potential providers need to know how to start a child care business and what special help and services are available to them through the Small Business Administration. The general public needs to know the benefits of providing quality early childhood environments for young children. In general, everyone benefits from adequate, affordable, quality child care.

How do we go about solving the day care dilemma with its myiad of problems. I think as a nation we need to develop a national child care policy that all parents can benefit from not just those below a certain economic level. To start this national policy, we need to determine what our ultimate goals are and then draft legislation that would offer short term relief but have the potential for long term solutions.

This legislation needs to address the gap between what day care should cost and parents ability to pay; day care as a coorporate benefit without fear that the employee will have to pay tax on that benefit at the end of the year; tax breaks to business who become involved in child care; subsidy to child care workers to insure a decent living; ways to provide training to child care workers to upgrade their skills and help insure quality; and public information mechanisms to articulate the need for a expanded child care policy. Toward this end this testimony has been prepared.

Again, I thank Senator Metzenbaum for the opportunity to speak at this hearing and his interest in child care.

Senator METZENBAUM. Okay? Mark, happy to have you.

Mr. REAL. Well, Senator, thank you. I just want to begin by embarrasing you for one second by thanking you, I think, on behalf of all of us who are here. Senator Metzenbaum, you have stood up for children, and you are one of the handful of people who were courageous enough to do that in 1981, and you have consistently stood for programs like Head Start, Paternal and Child Health, Child Support, that's saved this country money, and I want to thank you on behalf of everybody here.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. I told you we should put Mark Real on the stand.

Mr. REAL. I do sincerely thank you and want to comment that I think you have a superb staff. This is an extremely well-organized hearing, and I think in a place that shows where public investment works. This is a facility that's very successful and one that has accomplished a broad range of goals.

Senator METZENBAUM. Mark, let me stop you a second and introduce the staff because it was James Wagner who's part of my Washington staff and Deputy Director of my entire office staff who came out from Washington; and Jerry Brown who runs my Toledo office. I think you all owe them a round of applause.

And Daisie Snyder who also has come out working hard for my Washington staff. Thank you, Daisie. Go ahead, Mark.

Mr. REAL. Certainly. Let me just move, if I may, into commenting on your proposed legislation because I really want to applaud you for what you are trying to do. And just in a brief nutshell review, I liked your statement very much at the beginning that the Federal Government unfortunately has been asleep at the switch. And if you look at the crucial issues that have been brought up in this hearing. Safety for children: the Federal Government has no strategy to make—to create safety for children in child care.

Incentives for business: there is virtually—there are very few incentives and those that are—those that are there are administered in a very weak and unenthusiastic kind of fashion. The loan program: the small business administration is a great program in concept. But I think your proposal will make it work, it will make it go out and aggresively meet the proprietary day care and the nonprofit day care and offer their services in an aggresive kind of way.

And then I have to say that I think the single most important thing that your legislation addresses is financial aid for working families. That I think—the financial problems that you can see and hear that have been illustrated, that allow the first panel of witnesses to work, to be trained, to become professionals. That kind of thing makes their families work in a profound kind of way.

You've heard testimony certainly that child care is the fourth highest expense in a family budget. You have heard the compelling testimony of these professionals, and I—I applaude your concern for the work force here because I think you are absolutely right in your prediction. I think just as now that Congress has been trying to grapple with the shortage of math and science teachers, in a few years we are going to have a shortage of committed professionals, like the people in this room, who work with young children.

I have provided for you as just some of the economics here, sir, the economics—just to show you the effect of the Federal budget

cuts in Ohio. Since 1981 the—we are, sir—in 1981 in Ohio there were 40,000 low-income children who received financial aid for child care. Today there are fewer than 16,000, a 60 percent cut since 1981. And I mention the point that there are more children on ADC now in Ohio than there have ever been in the State's history.

Senator METZENBAUM. So we are penny wise and pound foolish.

Mr. REAL. That's right. We serve now—and I have got it on this chart here—we serve only 1 in 22 children on ADC with any kind of financial aid for child support.

And I think the figures that you have put forward, that other witnesses have put forward, are very compelling. The proposal that you have put forward, I think, is cost effective immediately, and we have had witnesses here today who are able to leave public assistance as a result of these kinds of programs.

I simply want to say that I think that the legislation that you have introduced is long overdue, and I applaud you for it.

Senator METZENBAUM. Thank you. Mr. Real, I know that as a result of a grass-roots campaign organized by many of you who are testifying in this hearing, Ohio has passed landmark legislation dealing with day care licensing, standards and inspections. For that I congratulate you. In contrast, how would you characterize the Federal Government's efforts on behalf of day care?

Mr. REAL. Well, I think the Federal Government frankly has not responded. The Federal Government has not made child care safer and, you know, the State Represenative who you introduced earlier today was a member of the Republican party. He voted, for example, to give parents the right to visit their children in day care programs at any time in Ohio. He voted to make child abuse prevention training part of the training for child care professionals. He voted to create an Ohio Day Care Tax Credit. And members of both political parties have done that in Ohio. That is not, unfortunately, the record of the Federal Government.

Senator METZENBAUM. What do you think about employer-provided day care, and how do we encourage it?

Mr. REAL. Well, I think it's a crucial element. I think—as you know well, over half the people in Ohio work for small employers. So we need one strategy for large employers and another for small employers. I think that the—your work to expand the day care tax credit has been very important because it provides some money in hand, but I think that the loan program that you are proposing would make a big difference, both for employers who want to do something near their site, plus for employers who want it in their neighborhood; help a church or YWCA or proprietary day care center get started.

I think that also if the Small Business Administration frankly would do its job in terms of providing business assistance, that would help a great deal. There are a lot of problems that these people in this room have with building permits, fire codes and other kinds of things that other business people face; that they could really be quite helpful in streamlining. So I think that your bill to create incentives to do that is very much in the right direction.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Real follows:]

Children's Defense Fund - Ohio

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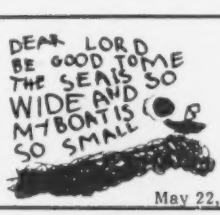


Mark Real
Director

Mary Lazarus
Community Volunteer

Mary Eng
Research Assistant

May 22, 1987

U.S. Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources
Subcommittee on Day Care
Field Hearing on Day Care
Toledo, Ohio

Senator Metzenbaum and members of the committee:

Let me begin by thanking you for your consistent commitment to improving opportunities for America's low-income children and families. In 1981, you were among a courageous handful of Senators who opposed across-the-board reductions in cost-effective children's programs. We at the Children's Defense Fund applaud your leadership in making the day care tax credit more valuable to moderate-income working families. We deeply appreciate your consistent support for programs that enable families to become self-sufficient.

Last year, through your efforts, Congress made new investments in programs with proven track records of effectiveness, such as Head Start, the Chapter I Compensatory Education Program, the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, and services to abused and neglected children. At a time when some federal officials want to reduce our public commitment to children, you have been able to persuade your colleagues to invest in this nation's youngsters. I am confident that the members of the Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children, the administration of the Michael J. Owens Technical College, and the other witnesses join me in thanking you for your efforts.

Let me thank you as well for your ability to select such competent and committed staff. Your staff has done an excellent job of involving a wide range of individuals and organizations in your legislation and in this hearing.

. . . continued . . .

The Growing Need for Child Care

Family life in Ohio has changed profoundly in the last few decades. What follows is a brief overview of the trends:

- Nearly three quarters of a million Ohio children under age nine will need day care this year. This is equal to the combined populations of Canton, Dayton, Toledo, and Youngstown, four of Ohio's largest cities.

- Day care is a $300 million business in Ohio. The number of day care centers has increased five fold, from 500 in 1969 to nearly 2,500 today, serving nearly 140,000 youngsters.

- Over 15,000 Ohioans are employed in day care centers and thousands more work in their own homes taking care of children, making day care one of the fastest growing service industries in Ohio.

In the past 20 years, significant social and demographic changes have altered the basic structure of the American family. Most children are no longer raised in the "traditional" two-parent American family, consisting of the husband who goes to work and the wife who remains at home. Census figures document three important changes which combine to create an explosion in the demand for day care.

1. A 250 Percent Increase in the Number of Working Mothers with Preschool Children. In 1960, just over 16 percent of Ohio women with preschool children worked. By 1980, this percentage had increased more than two and a half times to over 42 percent. By 1990, it is expected that over half of the mothers of preschool children will be employed outside their homes.

2. A 250 Percent Increase in the Number of Families Headed by a Single Parent. The number of Ohio families with children headed by a single parent increased from 86,000 in 1960 to 227,000 in 1980. One in seven Ohio families with children is now headed by a single mother. In 1985 alone, over 50,000 Ohio children were involved in divorces. Another 35,000 were born out of wedlock. If current rates continue, half of Ohio's children will live in a single-parent family before they reach age 18.

3. An Increase in the Number of Children Under Age 10. For the first time in over 30 years, the number of American children under age 10 is increasing as the "baby-boom" generation has families. By 1990, there will be 17 percent more children under age 10 than in 1980; in Ohio, there will be 50,000 more children under age 6. Unlike previous generations, mothers will be returning to jobs in less than a year after giving birth.

The figures and trends documenting the escalating demand for day care are not surprising to most Ohioans. The need for day care is probably as familiar as the working family who lives next door. Neither are these figures disturbing in their implications for child development. Study after study has shown that young children who spend time in child care settings do not differ developmentally from children who are raised primarily in the home. And, there is evidence that Head Start and other high quality preschool programs provide intellectual and social benefits for low-income children beyond those they receive at home.

The net result of these changes is that the demand for day care has increased significantly in the past 20 years, is at an all-time high currently, and will continue to increase in the next decade. Unfortunately, the federal government as a whole, with the exception of certain officials like Senator Metzenbaum, is refusing to respond to the needs of Ohio families.

Quality Child Care Is an Investment

Child care provides Congress with an opportunity to invest in America's families. Child care provides support to a single parent's efforts to support her children and to two-parent families struggling to improve themselves. Good child care:

- provides ADC parents with the opportunity to become gainfully employed,
- enables low-income families to take advantage of Ohio's job training and community college programs,
- helps the parents of handicapped children meet their special responsibilities,
- treats the victims of abuse by helping these children become engaged with other children and learn to trust adults,
- provides care to children who would otherwise return to an empty home at the end of the school day or during vacations,
- offers an opportunity for children to develop their skills and abilities under the guidance of trained and caring adults, and
- prepares children to take advantage of kindergarten and elementary school experiences by equipping them to work in groups and follow instructions.

Child Care: A Key to Economic Growth

It currently costs Ohio less than $2,500 a year to pay for the day care of a poor child whose mother works. By contrast, it costs Ohio over $6,000 a year to provide public assistance to the same size family. Thus, every dollar spent for day care immediately saves Ohio three dollars in welfare costs. In addition, child care enables parents to begin paying back this investment right away by working and paying taxes.

What is alarming about the gowing need for day care is that the supply of affordable, quality care in Ohio has not kept pace with the demand. Many parents are simply not able to find the right day care setting for their child, or day care they can afford.

The lack of safe, affordable day care blunts the economic improvement of many Ohioans, keeps thousands of parents who want to work on welfare, and prevents many people from attending vocational training programs or college classes which could enhance their job opportunties. Further, many parents throughout the country find their children in day care settings that are potentially dangerous, inconvenient, and inappropriate for their needs, a hugh drain on their monthly budgets, and a constant source of worry and concern. Employers across the state know all too well that absenteeism and lack of worker productivity often result when working parents have unsatisfactory child care arrangements.

The Federal Response to Child Care Since 1980

Ensuring safety for children in day care programs

Currently, the federal government provides no protection to youngsters in child care.

Incentives for businesses to provide day care to employees

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 retained provisions which permit businesses to deduct day care expenses as an ordinary business expense and allow employees to pay for day care with pre-tax dollars as part of a "cafeteria of benefits" program. No new incentives have been put in practice.

Loans for construction and renovation of day care programs

Existing loan programs often do not treat day care operators as "real business people." There is no aggressive outreach of business assistance programs to potential child care providers.

Financial aid for day care for low-income working families

Federal support has fallen by 25 percent in actual dollars; by more than half in real dollars. The effect of these reductions in Ohio are documented in the accompanying charts.

Remedies

Senator Metzenbaum, your proposed five-point legislative agenda to improve child care is excellent. As you know, your bill will be the first in a series of Congressional proposals aimed at improving child care programs this year. Several features of your legislation are especially noteworthy.

Financial aid for day care for low-income working families

Several studies have documented that day care is often the fourth highest expense in a working family's budget, behind housing, food, and taxes. Quality child care costs between $35 to $95 per week per child, depending on the age of the child and the setting.

Low-income families, especially those earning less than the federal poverty level, are simply unable to meet this cost. As a result, many poor parents are precluded from the educational and work opportunities that would allow them to escape from poverty.

Your proposal would create a federal financial aid program for day care. This is the single, most important step which needs to be taken.

Based on our experience in Ohio, we can assure you that such a measure will be extremely cost effective. Public assistance for a mother and child (38 percent of all Ohio ADC families have only one child) costs more than $6,000 a year. By contrast, even full-time child care costs less than $2,500 a year, while permitting a single parent the dignity of employment.

Safeguards for children in day care

As other witnesses have explained, the 1986 Ohio day care licensing law provides certain basic safeguards for parents and children, including: an "open-door" policy for parent visits, training for staff and administrators in child abuse prevention and detection, the posting of a toll-free telephone number in each center to enable staff and parents to report abuse or overcrowing, and, most importantly, unannounced inspections. These basis safeguards help to protect children and increase parent and public confidence in child care. We applaud your proposal which includes basic safeguards for child safety and health.

Guaranteed loans

If existing federal loan programs had child care expansion and renovation as a high priority, this would have a very positive effect. For example, many community institutions, such as churches (which house one-third of Ohio's child care programs), YWCAs, YMCAs, city recreation centers, community colleges, and libraries could use loans to renovate existing buildings. Proprietary operators should be included as well. This is a badly needed redirecting of existing resources.

Incentives for employers

Several studies have shown that quality child care reduces absenteeism and increases worker productivity. In many offices and factories, there is a virtual rush of parents to telephones at 3:00 in the afternoon, as concerned parents call home to their children.

Your proposed incentives for employers involve the private sector in a most constructive way. As you know, some Ohio employers have taken steps to aid their employees, but many more would welcome the incentives you are proposing.

EXPENDITURES IN OHIO'S CHILD CARE PROGRAM:
State Fiscal Years 1981 to 1987

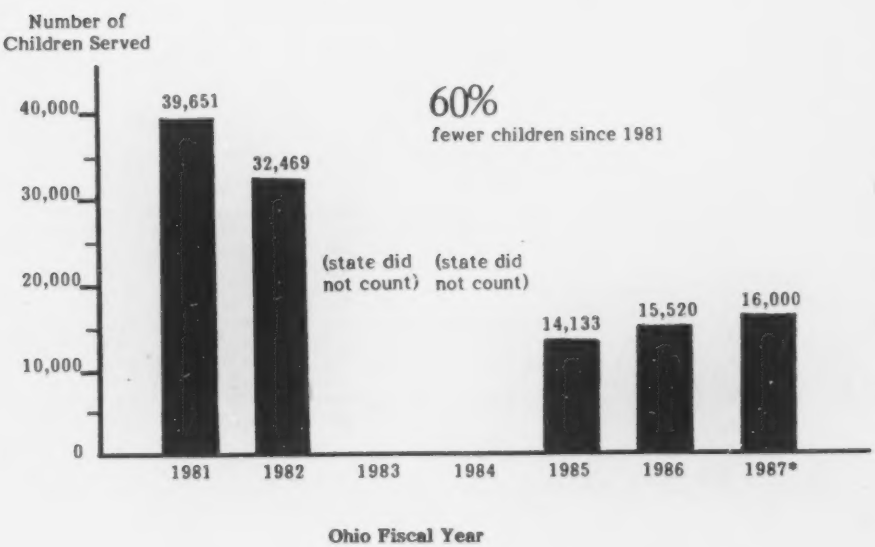
State Fiscal Year	Expenditures	Children Served
1981	$ 35,742,741	39,651
1982	28,347,183	32,469
1983	22,909,520	State did not count children
1984	20,314,001	State did not count children
1985	24,162,344	14,133
1986	26,706,712	15,520
1987*	28,500,000	16,000

* Fiscal year 1987 estimates. Expenditures include state and federal funds; of the $28.5 million expended in 1987, $17.5 million were in federal funds and $10.9 million in state funds.

Chart reads: From fiscal years 1981 to 1987, Ohio cut day care spending by over $7.2 million, a 20 percent reduction. Over 23,000 children lost day care, a 60 percent loss in services.

Source: Ohio Department of Human Services, May 1987.

THREE OUT OF FIVE CHILDREN CUT FROM OHIO'S DAY CARE PROGRAMS IN SEVEN YEARS



* As of May 1987.

Calculations by Children's Defense Fund-Ohio, 1987.

Ohio's Children

State Capital: Columbus
County Population: 10,744,428
Number of Children: 3,083,651

Maternal and Child Health

- **Prenatal Care**. One in five, or 29,946, pregnant women in Ohio receives prenatal care late each year. Ohio has the 38th highest rate of pregnant women receiving prenatal care late.

- **Underweight Infants**. Each year, one in 15 babies born in the state is at health risk because it weighs under five and a half pounds at birth. Ohio has the 29th highest rate of babies born underweight.

- **Infant Mortality**. Ohio's infant mortality rate declined from 12.8 per 1,000 live births in 1980 to 10.4 in both 1984 and 1985. Nationally, Ohio has the 25th highest rate of infant deaths before age one.

Day Care

- **Day Care Needs**. Nearly half of Ohio's youngsters under age nine need day care services because they live in single-parent or two-parent working families.

- **Day Care for the Poor**. Only one in 22 Ohio children on public assistance under age 11 receives financial aid for day care, allowing its parents to work.

Child Poverty

- **Poverty and Unemployment**. Over 14 percent of Ohio's families live in poverty. The state's unemployment rate is 8.1 percent.

- **Single-Parent Families**. One in seven Ohio families with children is headed by a single mother. In 1985, nearly 22 percent of Ohio babies were born out of wedlock, the 23rd highest rate in the country.

- **Births to Teenagers**. One in eight Ohio babies was born to a teenage mother in 1985; nearly 61 percent were born out of wedlock. Nearly half were on public assistance at a cost of $59 million. Nationally, Ohio has the 19th highest rates of births to teens and to unmarried teens.

- **Public Assistance**. One in seven Ohio children received public assistance each month in 1986. More than 85 percent of these children were under age 14.

- **Unpaid Child Support**. Through 1986, over $457.6 million in court-ordered child support went unpaid to children on public assistance or in foster care in Ohio. Over $153.5 million went unpaid to children who were not on public assistance.

Children's Defense Fund–Ohio
The Junior Leagues of Ohio, 1987

Lucas County Children

County Seat: Toledo
County Population: 460,978
Number of Children: 132,762

District	State Senators
2	Paul E. Gillmor (R)
11	Linda Furney (D)
	State Representatives
45	Casey C. Jones (D)
46	Donald P. Czarcinski (D)
47	J. Barney Quilter (D)
48	Arlene Singer (D)
70	Frederick H. Deering (D)
	U.S. Congress
9	Marcy Kaptur (D)

Maternal and Child Health

- **Prenatal Care.** One in five, or 1,270, pregnant women in Lucas County receives prenatal care late each year. Rank: 45.
- **Underweight Infants.** Each year, one in 14 babies born in Lucas County is at health risk because it weighs under five and a half pounds at birth. Rank: 4.

Day Care

- **Day Care Needs.** Half of the Lucas County youngsters under age nine need day care services because they live in single-parent or two-parent working families.
- **Day Care for the Poor.** Only one in 28 Lucas County children on public assistance under age 11 receives financial aid for day care, allowing its parents to work.

Child Poverty

- **Poverty and Unemployment.** Fifteen percent of Lucas County's families live in poverty. Rank: 37. The county's unemployment rate is 8.7 percent. Rank: 49.
- **Single-Parent Families.** One in five Lucas County families with children is headed by a single mother. Rank: 5. In 1985, nearly 29 percent of Lucas County babies were born out of wedlock. Rank: 3.
- **Births to Teenagers.** One in seven Lucas County babies was born to a teenage mother in 1985; over 76 percent were born out of wedlock. Nearly 57 percent were on public assistance at a cost of $3.9 million.
- **Public Assistance.** One in five Lucas County children received public assistance each month in 1986. More than 85 percent of these children were under age 14. Rank: 12.
- **Unpaid Child Support.** Lucas County was one of six counties that did not provide any information about child support arrearages to the Ohio Department of Human Services.

Rankings read: Among Ohio's 88 counties, Lucas County has the _____ highest rate of _____

Senator METZENBAUM. I've been sitting here and thinking about what we ought to be saying and what kind of national program we ought to have, and I have come to the conclusion that day care ought to adopt, as a national program, the concept, "Help balance the Federal budget. Support day care legislation."

Ms. Sterman, you are our last witness, but you get two for the price of one; you've already testified somewhat. We are happy to hear from you. You are the Director of the State of Ohio Office of Child Care Services and are very pleased that you are with us.

Ms. STERMAN. Thank you.

Senator METZENBAUM. What's the state of day care in Ohio?

Ms. STERMAN. Well, in my position with the State, I administer the Day Care Subsidy Program and also the Day Care Licensing Program. So our two priorities in the office are the funding of day care for low-income families, and the protection for all children in child care.

Senator METZENBAUM. Tell us what the funding aspects are? I'm not clear on that.

Ms. STERMAN. The funding situation right now is that we——

Senator METZENBAUM. Can you pull the mike a little closer, please?

Ms. STERMAN. The funding situation for day care in Ohio is that we clearly don't have enough money. The success stories that we heard this morning from families show that when the Government helps pay for day care, we can help these families become self-sufficient. And parents who earn meager salaries can't afford the 2 to $3,000 per child per year to attend day care.

Senator METZENBAUM. What does the State pay? You say you don't have enough money, but I'm not clear as to what the State pays.

Ms. STERMAN. Right now the State is distributing 28 and a half million dollars for child care for low-income families, and that is Federal——

Senator METZENBAUM. Say that again?

Ms. STERMAN [continuing]. And State money.

Senator METZENBAUM. The State is what?

Ms. STERMAN. We right now are spending 28 and a half million dollars on day care to help low-income families leave public assistance roles and go to work.

Senator METZENBAUM. How much do you pay? How is that determined how much the low-income——

Ms. STERMAN. Each of the counties—the program is administered at the county level. And so we allocate these funds to each county, and the rate of reimbursement is determined by the County Department.

The problem in Ohio right now——

Senator METZENBAUM. What's the range?

Ms. STERMAN. The range? The family day care tends to be less expensive than center day care, and so it ranges from a reimbursement, I would say of—a low reimbursement for family day care would be $6 a day per child; high would be about $8, $9 per day per child; in day care centers many of the counties are paying $11 per day per child. The State maximum is $16 per day per child. Clearly

there are ranges depending on the type of care and the part of the state that they are living in.

But the 28 and a half million dollars is clearly not enough to serve the families that need care. In 1981 we were spending $35.7 million for this service, and as Mark pointed out, we were serving 40,000 children then, and we are only serving 16,000 now.

And even though there are more families that need day care now than there were back in 1981, the Federal Government has not provided any additional money and, in fact, recently we experienced the Gramm-Rudman cuts which took an additional $800,000 of day care money out of our state day care program.

The State's made a commitment to funding day care. Governor Celeste has proposed, and the legislature approved, for 47 percent increase in State funding for day care. But what's been happening is that since we experienced those huge cuts in the Federal budget in 1981, back in 1981 the Federal Government was paying 88 percent of our day care dollar, and the State was contributing twelve cents out of every dollar spent in day care.

Now the Federal Government is only contributing 61 percent——

Senator METZENBAUM. How much?

Ms. STERMAN. 61 percent. And the State budget is contributing 39 cents out of every dollar that we are spending for low-income families for day care.

So what I most applaud about your legislation is the expansion of the Federal involvement in the day care program; so that increases in funding can be a partnership between the Federal Government and the State.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Sterman follows:]

TESTIMONY

Cheri Sterman, Director
Office of Child Care Services
Ohio Department of Human Services
May, 1987

I am Cheri Sterman, Director of the Ohio Office of Child Services, within the Ohio Department of Human Services. I administer the day care subsidy program and day care licensing for the state of Ohio. I appreciate the opportunity to address the need for day care services in Ohio and to thank Senator Metzenbaum for sponsoring this important legislation.

The success stories from parents who get day care financial assistance make it clear that government can and must help families become self sufficient. Parents who earn meager salaries cannot afford the $2,000 - 3,000 per child that day care costs, yet when we provide parents day care subsidy, they can work and support their families.

We are currently spending $28.5 million on day care in Ohio and it's not enough. Only 16,000 children are receiving services now compared to nearly 40,000 in 1981 before the federal budget cuts. In 1981, Ohio spent $35.7 million on day care. In 1982 this dropped to $28.3 million because of the Reconciliation Budget Act.

As more parents need day care due to the increased number of single parent head of households and two parent working families, the federal funding for day care services has not gotten better. In fact, in 1986 the Gramm-Rudman Act took an additional $800,000 in day care dollars from Ohio.

The state has made a strong commitment to day care. Governor Celeste proposed and the legislature approved a 47% increase in the state funding for day care in 1986. In 1981 the federal government provided 88% of the day care subsidy spent in Ohio and the state contributed 12 cents out of every dollar spent on day care for low income children. But, in 1987 the federal government provided only 61% of the funding and the state is now providing 39 cents out of every day care dollar that serves low income families. The only increases in day care funding since 1981 have been made with state dollars. Future increases need to be done as a partnership between the federal government and states. We look forward to the passage of this bill which will be the federal government's first move forward on funding day care services since the drastic budget cuts.

The need for day care in Ohio far exceeds the current funding. Forty-three of the 88 counties reported to our office that the $28.5 million just isn't enough. They report needing $7.7 million more just to continue providing services. Several counties had to curtail services this spring because they ran out of day care money. Counties' problems of inadequate funding are so pervasive that the state has established a system for priority setting which is a euphemism for legally denying eligible families services in the fairest way possible. Since day care is not an entitlement program, the majority of families who are financially eligible are likely to be denied service because the limited funds can only go so far and are spent on the "priority" families. Each county makes its own priority listing based on local circumstances. This priority system is necessary to keep the day care spending within the limits of the ceiling and yet, even with the priority system, 25 counties overspent in 1986 by an amount of over $2 million.

While these numbers demonstrate the size of the problem, it's the families' stories that tell the tragedy when parents have to give up their jobs and go on public assistance because their day care has been cut.

Jane B. from Dover is a twenty-one year old trying to raise her 4-year-old by herself. She gets no child support and has to work two jobs to make ends meet. The day care center where her daughter attends had to cut off Title XX day care because the county ran out of money. Jane wrote to Governor Celeste asking, "So what am I to do now...there is no way I can afford to keep my daughter there. Perhaps I should quit both jobs, go on Aid for Dependent Children and live off other peoples money. Is this the 'American way'? she asks.

Cathy S. has written too. She says, "I really can't begin to express my anxiety over Title XX child care ending...It has been brought to my attention that some mothers who were attending school had to quit because they had no one to watch their children. The system seems to slap you in the face either way you go. You try to go to school to get a better job so you won't have to rely on the government...all you need is child care money but they take it away".

Linda S. says "I need to work. Being recently divorced, I realized that finding a job that will meet my financial needs will take some time, especially since I have been out of the work force for some time, but you have to start somewhere. I am an activity assistant at a nursing home and make $3.50 an hour. Title XX enabled me to work rather than become totally dependent on welfare...my concern is that I may not be able to pay for these services now and I'll have to quit my job".

Patricia O. wrote, "I am a single parent from Hardin County who depends on Title XX day care funding so that I may work. I have a good, secure job here with the telephone company. I solely support a three-year-old son. I have been able to reinstate almost total independence for almost a year...now I am faced with two very unpleasant options: 1) quit my job and go on welfare, or 2) move back to my father's home...and he has not said we will be welcome to come back...that leaves me with one lousy choice...WELFARE!".

Senator Metzenbaum's bill responds to these parents' concerns. Designating the child care funds in a day care line item in the federal budget will help Congress establish accountability for the funds spent on this vital social service. Currently day care funding gets lost in a block grant. The Senator's proposal to add funds to day care and keep these funds in a visible line item is the most important national initiative for day care that has been introduced to Congress.

I would also like to address another section of the Senator's legislation that deals with protection of children in day care. Ohio just passed a new day care licensing law and we studied numerous options for improving health and safety standards while working on that legislation. The Ohio General Assembly passed legislation that is greatly improving the safety of children in day care and we are pleased that Senator Metzenbaum has modeled his safety section on the new Ohio law, which is working so well here. Senator Metzenbaum's bill doesn't get drawn in to the futile argument of whether or not the federal government could tell states what adult supervision ratios states should require, but instead uses the incentive approach and assures that states which

get this money must enforce the standards the state has on the books by conducting unannounced inspections. No day care licensing law is worth the paper it's written on if the state doesn't inspect frequently and the unannounced inspections help to assure that the centers maintain the standards everyday, not just when the inspector is scheduled to come.

The most important way to assure children are safe and that parents are satisfied with the care is to provide "open door" parent visitation. Parents must be allowed into the center at any time to see how their children are being treated. It is amazing that so few states include this parental right in their law and we commend Senator Metzenbaum for assuring this consumer protection. We learned from parents that they often have questions about licensing requirements, have a concern about a center, or want to know what the law requires, but they don't know who licenses the centers or how to reach the agency. The requirement to have toll-free telephone access to the licensing agency is an important way to facilitate communication between parents and the licensing agency. This consumer protection feature is an important way to enhance the enforcement of states' licensing laws.

The frightening reports of child abuse caused us to look at what could be done to help teachers understand abuse and protect children. Ohio now requires day care staff to receive training in child abuse prevention and we are pleased that the Senator has this as a national requirement. This is a reasonable approach to the concern about abuse of children. Trained teachers are better equipped to identify, report, and prevent abuse, whether children are being harmed at home or by someone outside of their family.

The other provisions in the bill, small business loans to day care, the employer/community grants and the school age child care study are greatly needed in Ohio. However, I have focused my comments on the two issues of major concern to the state Office of Child Care Services, 1) funding, and 2) protection. I look forward to working with Senator Metzenbaum in support of this bill and again want to thank you for taking the leadership in this area.

Senator METZENBAUM. Let me—thank you very much, each of the witnesses, but let me touch upon the subject of Gramm-Rudman and about the Federal cutbacks.

Let me say to the audience that we probably don't appreciate what's happened in Washington in the last six-and-a-half years. We have had this hullabaloo about cutting back on Federal spending on the domestic level. While the defense spending has gone up like this, the domestic spending has gone down like that. And when there was the issue, for example, of revenue sharing, I remember the President saying, "We are sending it back to the States, and we are going to provide 75 percent of the funding, but they will be able to effectuate economies at the State level and therefore they'll be able to get by on 75 percent."

Well, the States weren't able to get by, and across the country the states increased taxes. And then what happened after that was the President—and I don't mean this to sound political, but I'm giving you the reality—then they looked at the states and said, "Well, they have increased taxes, now they have a surplus; so they don't need the revenue sharing anymore."

So the 75 percent was eliminated, poof, and it went down to zero. And what's happened is that while we've done that, we have literally thrown billions and billions of dollars at increased defense spending. We spend two thirds of every dollar spent in Europe for NATO which—where we have 320,000 troops and spend about $150 billion a year, two-thirds of all those dollars spent there are American dollars, and the European community only spends one-third. We spend $50 billion to defend our Southeast Asian allies. We spend 6 percent of our Gross National Product, and they spend one-half of one percent to defend our Southeastern allies, and meanwhile we keep talking, and the President keeps talking about cutting back on pending.

What we are talking about when we are talking about cutting back on spending are programs such as WIC; programs such as Day Care, programs such as Food Stamps, programs such as—having to do with senior citizens as well as children. And don't let anybody kid you that the problems that we have in seeing to it that the day care facilities are adequately funded are not directly related to some of the changes that have been made in Washington in the last six-and-a-half years.

I say that not politically, but I say it out of a deep sense of frustration and concern because I don't believe that 230 million Americans truly understand what's been going on in Washington in the last six-and-a-half years.

And let me then now conclude by saying thanks to Owens Tech. They could not have been more cooperative in helping us set up this hearing. And thanks to each of those—who were our witnesses. And, yes, a special thanks to the audience, including those who watched the hearing on monitors that were in adjoining rooms.

Day care will continue to be a major item on my agenda as Chairman of the Labor Subcommittee. And I say to you that we will escalate the battle for adequate day care centers in the coming months and years, but we have many challenges ahead of us.

Your job is to educate your own Congressional Representatives, but I might say to you in passing that I am very confident that

Marcy Kaptur, that magnificently able and committed Congress person who represents this community, does share our concerns on this issue. But we've got many others that we must educate throughout Ohio and throughout the country. We've got some work to do. We will be doing it together, and I won't let you down.

Thank you very much.

[Whereupon, at 12:05 p.m., the subcommittee adjourned subject to the call of the Chair.]

[Additional material supplied for the record follows:]

North Side
Child
Development
Center

94 East Third Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201 614-299-1131

June 16, 1987

U.S. Senate Hearing on Day Care
Office of Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum:

On behalf of North Side Child Development Center in Columbus, Ohio I am pleased to submit for your review the attached testimony relative to your proposed legislation "The Day Care for Working Families Act of 1987" (S. 1271).

North Side is encouraged by your efforts toward an improvement in Ohio's day care services and looks forward to the bill's enactment.

Please feel free to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Nancy R. Legge

Nancy R. Legge
Director

NRL/lg

TESTIMONY TO
SENATOR HOWARD M. METZENBAUM

In its position as the first child care agency in the State of Ohio to be accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs, the accrediting division of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, North Side Child Development Center in Columbus, Ohio, feels an especially strong responsibility to make public its viewpoints regarding the state of the day care industry in Ohio and to recommend changes toward an improvement in the provision of these services.

The need for day care is well documented and in Ohio, a very familiar problem to working parents, particularly low-income ones. Nearly three-fourths of a million Ohio children under the age of nine will need day care services in 1987. In addition, the number of Ohio families with children headed by a single parent increased from 86,000 in 1960 to 227,000 in 1980. Today one in seven Ohio families with children is headed by a single mother and, if current rates continue, half of Ohio's children will live in a single parent family before they reach age eighteen. Most of these single parents are mothers who live at or near the poverty level. The average single mother with children earned less than $9,000 in 1982.

Locally, according to the Metropolitan Human Services Commission's "Franklin County Update 1984," most new jobs in Franklin County have been and will continue to be low-income positions and the number of persons in the county living below the poverty line is steadily increasing. Only one in fourteen Franklin County children on public assistance receives subsidized day care which allows his or her parent to work.

Finally, as the number of working mothers with preschool children continues to grow, coupled with an increase in the number of children under the age of ten, the demand for day care services will likewise grow, at least for the next decade.

North Side Child Development Center, a non-profit agency funded in part by United Way of Franklin County and Title XX Social Service Program, has a seventy-three year history of service to low-income and socio-economically disadvantaged families, as well as children who are at-risk of abuse or neglect.

We target our services to children of parents who are employed, in school, or in job-training programs, and to children with special needs, including the need for protective day care, and to children with handicapping conditions.

The parent most often served by North Side is single, female, and earns an income of $10,000 or less per year. She is generally the head of her household and eligible for funds from the Title XX program. Anecdotal records suggest that many of these women experience a number of stressors, including parenting difficulties, lack of a formal and/or informal support network, and limited child care alternatives, for which day care offers substantial relief.

Because of the population it serves, North Side has witnessed firsthand the financial and personal benefits which families reap by virtue of their accessibility to North Side's services. Day care allows them to be gainfully employed and to avoid welfare dependency. Since it currently costs Ohio less than $2,500 per year to pay for the day care of a poor child whose mother works compared to $6,000 per year to provide public assistance to the same size family, it makes immediate economic sense to provide quality day care services to low-income families. Unfortunately, there is a shortage of quality and affordable day care

centers in Ohio.

It seems clear that individual states cannot be expected to provide a well-coordinated system of child care, especially in light of the dramatic funding cuts in Title XX over the past six years. By the same token, the private sector does not appear ready to shoulder the entire day care system as evidenced by the fact that only three thousand of six million employers provide any form of child care to help their employees.

Therefore, the federal government's role in day care should be a strong one, though to date, its involvement has been disappointingly minimal. Particularly disturbing is the reduction of federal dollars which are allocated as day care financial aid for low-income working families. Since 1980, 25% fewer dollars have been budgeted and 50% fewer dollars have actually been expended toward day care subsidization. Low-income families often have tremendous difficulty affording day care for their children and as a consequence, many of those parents who would otherwise be employed must remain at home with their children and rely upon welfare for survival. Even for those low-income families who manage to pay for day care, many of them pay a significant percentage of their budgets for it, often more than 25%, since a wide price range of services is not available in most Ohio communities.

North Side supports Senator Metzenbaum's proposed five-point legislative agenda which has the establishment of a formal federal financial aid program for day care services for children of low-income families as one of its features. It is suggested that restoration of funds to the Title XX Social Program be a chief component of such a program.

In addition to a financial aid plan, North Side applauds Senator Metzenbaum's proposal which calls for special guaranteed loans to

build new centers and grants for the expansion of existing ones. Like other small businesses, day care programs have problems borrowing money at affordable rates. Generally, the amounts needed for start-up renovation, and equipment purchases are relatively modest and since low-interest loan programs have been initiated for other small businesses, it seems reasonable to include day care programs in these efforts. Both profit-making and non-profit centers should be eligible.

North Side is equally pleased to learn that Senator Metzenbaum proposes realistic and effective safeguards for children in day care environments, including unannounced federal inspections, mandatory training for staff and administrators, and an "open door" policy for parent visits.

While an increased role on the part of the federal government is critically needed in the day care system, North Side is concerned that those laws which are established be attainable, enforceable, and not financially prohibitive. To develop legislation which is incapable of meeting the realistic needs and problems of both the day care consumer and provider is foolish, ineffective, and unresponsive to the needs of American families.

In summary, North Side Child Devleopment Center registers its full support for Senator Metzenbaum's proposed legislation to improve the quality and quantity of child care services in Ohio. It will be through measures such as these that Ohio's children and families will be enabled to actualize their full social, personal, and financial independence.

TESTIMONY

Submitted To:

U. S. Senate Hearing on Day Care

Submitted By:

Cindy Birt
Director

Child Development Programs

Tri-County Community Action Agency

Athens, Ohio

Through various job opportunities I have been involved in childrens' issues since 1975. I have served as Director of our Child Development Programs covering three rural counties in southeastern Ohio for the past five years. Child Development programs in this Agency contain the Head Start Program which currently serves 222 children in both center-based and home-based programming, as well as a Day Care Program in Athens, Ohio which is licensed to serve 49 children. Our Agency has been in the Day Care business for over ten years and we have served low to moderate-income children who qualified for Title XX reimbursement during that period of time. Many years back there was an ample amount of Appalachian Regional Commission money to maintain more day care programming in our area and there was more than adequate Title XX funding to subsidize low-income services. In the past three years our Agency has seen a significant reduction in the availability of those Title XX funds and at the same time, the need for service has risen. Running a day care program is basically a business and one must recruit and enroll clients who can afford the services. Proposed legislation must address some subsidy for those who cannot afford day care.

We presently have on our Title XX waiting list a total of 30 families who could use Day Care services. Many of these people on our waiting list are single mothers on public assistance. For these women to accept employment at a minimum wage job and to pay approximately $280 a month for day care is an unfortunate situation that cannot be very easily resolved. Many choose to stay on public assistance because they are unable to pay such day care costs. As Congress considers Welfare Reform legislation, it is critical that this particular aspect of the mother on public assistance be addressed. The economic situation in our three counties is such that most starting jobs and, in fact, most jobs pay only the minimum wage. For that reason, Welfare Reform will be meaningless and people will not be able to take jobs without additional subsidies for day care.

A second consideration when proposing Day Care legislation is the development of new day care centers. In 1983 our Agency initiated the idea for a new day care center in Nelsonville, Ohio. A Hospital, a Technical College and a small Shoe Factory are the major business establishments in that community and all expressed a great interest and need for day care for their employees. Our Agency has patched together various sources of funding in order to build and open this summer a new day care center which will serve about 60 children. Funding came from the Appalachian Regional Commission, the State of Ohio's Department of Development Grant Office and a Community Development Block Grant from local county commissioners. In addition to the intricate maneuvering needed to combine these three types of fundings, the Agency still found itself short in completing the project. The Agency's Board had to additionally secure a $75,000 loan from a local Nelsonville Bank. While the community of Nelsonville has been very supportive of the Center, this community does not have the resources to contribute to the construction of such a project. The business community was very cooperative in drafting support letters needed for the funding sources, but they have all expressed the difficulty that they would have in both giving us money to build the Center and also to subsidize their employees. Any proposed Day Care legislation which would require local business match resources could be unrealistic for our depressed area if hardship factors were not considered. We have been successful in getting the State legislators to waive the Title XX match requirements for the 28 counties of Appalachia Ohio because of the high incidence of unemployment and poverty. Similar hardship factors should be considered for rural areas of the country who will not have the ability to provide needed resources for day care. Our Agency will continue to work with the small businesses and employers in the Nelsonville community to encourage them to provide some subsidy for their employees who need day care. Perhaps some type of match program for these small businesses would entice them to consider this as an important fringe benefit for their employees.

The final issue I would like to address is the importance of day care services being conducted in a safe and developmental manner for the children to be served. This is particularly true for the many children who will spend a full work week in a center in an environment other than their own home. Our Agency believes firmly that any National legislation should encourage and provide the resources for a developmental approach to day care.

The State of Ohio has recently passed new Day Care legislation that contains adequate licensing standards which, perhaps, could serve as a model for National legislation.

I appreciate the opportunity to share our views on this matter and strongly support the implementation of National Day Care legislation. If our Agency can be of any further assistance in the development of this legislation, we would be glad to make ourselves available.

TESTIMONY TO THE NEED
FOR
AFFORDABLE, QUALITY DAY CARE SERVICES

Family day care is the most commonly used form of child care in the United States. It is the primary form of care used by low income families. It ranks high - if not at the top - of the most exploited forms of labor in the country. Income is determined by the neighborhood in which the provider lives. In poverty communities in Ohio, a family day care provider may be able to command only $3.00 per day per child or $15.00 per week.

A provider caring for 4 children at $30.00 each per week will gross a maximum of $6,240. per year. This gross income is reduced by her costs of providing care. The $30.00 figure represents an average or common fee paid by Ohio counties to contract providers under the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) program.

Family day care providers are now deemed self employed by: IRS, for income tax and FICA purposes; by USDA for food stamp eligibility; by the Department of Health and Human Services for A(F)DC eligibility; by HUD for purposes of determining eligibility for rent subsidy.

They, are on their own for insurance for their "business" for family health insurance, workers' and unemployment coverage.

Low income parents cannot afford the cost of quality child care. Providers, without exploiting themselves, cannot afford to provide quality child care.

Ohio's SSBG (Title XX) subsidizes only 2.3% of income eligible children. We have a schedule of partial payment for parents whose income exceeds roughly 110% of poverty. Parents must assume the full cost of care when income exceeds roughly 182% of poverty. We calculate that it would take $1 billion dollars for Ohio alone to subsidize the entire eligible population.

We regularly see parents dropping out of the publicly funded system, where the quality of child care is at least minimally monitored, because their share of the fee escalates so rapidly they purchase less expensive care from the hidden or underground economy. We hear of employees who refuse increases in pay to avoid losses in benefits or increases in fees.

The advent of Workfare and pending welfare reform legislation promises to increase the volume of children who receive subsidized, monitored care and, we predict, to soon disappear into the underground.

The only federal program with the potential to bring relief to this situation, to improve the quality of child care for thousands of children in Ohio, for hundreds of thousands of children in the nation, is the Child Care Food Program (CCFP), which can reimburse providers for some of the meals they serve children. This program has proved its value. It not only insures decent nutrition, it enhances total quality. It brings an average of$1.95 per day, per child to improve and maintain the quality of nutrition.It is not enough to cope with the total problem. It is a foundation. It should be available to all children.

Unfortunately, federal rules and/or laws make it most difficult - if not next to impossible - for a low income provider to participate in CCFP. In many states the exclusion by federal regulations has been complemented by state exclusionary rules.

We have raised these problems with the USDA. (Please see attached letter and their response). There is some promise of minor relief. We would like to take this opportunity to present this committee with the same material and some additional constraints.

I. The low income provider may be relieved of federal income tax by the new reforms. She is still encumbered with the impossible bookkeeping and accounting tasks of converting her gross receipts to earned income. She must do this for FICA purposes. The task, in and of itself is enough to scare providers into underground economy. She cannot participate in CCFP. From botched audits, from contradictory answers to repeated requests for information, we must conclude that IRS finds their own system to complex to manage.

Similar bookkeeping/accounting tasks are required of a provider eligible for A(F)DC, food stamps etc. The task is not only beyond the capacity of the family day care provider, but it cannot be handled by the income maintenance worker. Failure to provide documentation results in premature loss of benefits. We have seen it too many times in Ohio.

Our solution is a standard deduction for the costs of doing child care to encompass all of the agencies above. The higher income provider or a provider with exceptional expenses could still perform the elaborate accounting, but the vast majority of providers would have a reasonable way of managing a currently impossible task.

II. We ask you to consider the impact of FICA on a provider who has a net income of $3,000. per year. Her Social Security payment is $369. On her income she has no available or ready funds with which to pay this proportionately hugh amount. It must come out of the bare necessities of her family's food, heat, clothing or medical care.

When many providers reach retirement age they find social security income so small that it must be supplemented by SSI. Total income from these two sources is equal to what they would have received had they made no social security contributions at all.

The satisfaction the provider recieves is that she has been a contributing member of the system -- at the expense of minimum standards for her own family.

We do not feel competent to make a recommendation in this area. We urge you to take it under consideration.

III. Liability Insurance rates have exploded. It is currently impossible for the low income provider to get reasonable liability insurance for her "business". In some instances homeowners insurance may be cancelled. It is fortunate that the vast majority of parents do not jump into the tort system at the first sign of injury to a child. It is also fortunate that despite all the hazards of early childhood, family day care is a "low risk" industry. It is unfortunate, it is disgusting, that the insurance industry's need or greed has deprived this area of reasonable protection.

This problem, too, is beyond our competence. We do believe there is a reasonable answer, and again we ask that you take the matter into consideration.

IV. A recent HUD notice has blessed economic enterprises by residents of public housing (please see attachments). Conversation with HUD staff confirms that provision of child care is an acceptable activity in HUD's view. The clause in the "model" lease banning any such activity may be amended or voided at a local level. This is a little progress.

CCFP sponsors, with budget slashed back in 1981/82, with strapped resources, may now struggle to convince low income housing authorities and local managers to amend a long standing policy of Housing Urban Development, to make CCFP available to the significant number of residents now performing child care in their units. This is an area of desparate need.

If we are to make available the CCFP benefits to this easily identifiable low income population, we need a more positive stance.

We believe that Representative Oakar had legislation to construct or promote day care centers in public housing. Her proposal had great merit. It was, however, expensive.

Exempting family day care from the prohibition in the regulations (please see para. 3 in attachment), with a standard deduction to keep rents from sky rocketing, would encourage CCFP participation, improve nutrition, bring training etc, to existing caregivers. It would encourage other residents to provide care. It would be inexpensive. It would not be in competition with the establishment of centers.

V. In the beginning....CCFP reimbursements were not considered income to providers for purposes of IRS, A(F)DC, foodstamps etc. The 1980 rule changes increased the amounts of reimbursements. Federal agencies then required each provider to prove that expenditures were equal to - or greater than - reimbursement. This requires the segregation of day care food costs from those of the family, saving all grocery receipts, pay by check, etc., etc.

With the Omnibus Reconciliation Act, 1981, reimbursements were cut and providers were limited to claiming a maximum of two meals and one supplement per day, per child. This is less than many serve. If the

rationale for changing reimbursements to income was sound in 1980, it now has lost all merit.

The regulation reads:

> (c) Value of assistance. The value of assistance to children under the Program shall not be considered to be income or resources for any purposes under any Federal or State laws, including, but not limited to laws relating to taxation, welfare, and public assistance programs.

This was initially interpreted as the entire reimbursement check. Then, in the early 80's it was refined. Only the provider's reimbursement for her own children was considered "assistance to children". Reimbursement for the program children in her care did not go directly to the children and therefore such taxable, counted against food stamps etc.

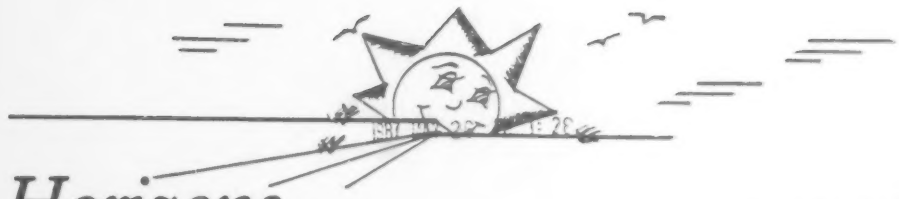
While the sophistry or sophistication is brilliant, the result is destructive, the paper work horrendous, the rationale specious.

We strongly recommend legislation to get back to the earlier simple interpretation. It might merely substitute "reimbursement to family day care providers" for "assistance to children". This might put parents whose children receive subsidized meals in day care centers in jeopardy of having to pay taxes on the value of assistance of those meals. If so, another sentence might be needed to differentiate between types of care.

VI. USDA has indicated a willingness to review some of the other issues we raised. (please see attached letter). We believe their willingness may be, in part, stimulated by the Senator's inquiries. We will

be sending you a copy of our response to their positions. We encourage you to monitor progress or the lack thereof and contiue to use your influence to prod them where necessary. We offer our historical perspective and our expertise in the process of developing rational rules and regulations that will enhance the implementation of CCFP and make the program accessible to those who need it.

Thank you for your consideration.



Horizons
Activities Center

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May 20, 1987

Senator Howard Metzenbaum
U.S. Senate Hearing on Day Care
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

Please allow me to thank you for your extensive and much needed efforts in the day care field. I further appreciate the opportunity you have given to day care providers to give their input. There are many difficulities facing this relatively new and greatly expanded field. However, the three major areas to be improved are undoubtedly; insurance, funding and the establishment or more non-profit centers.

The insurance dilemma day cares are facing is despicable. Insurance is near impossible to secure and if secured the premiums are so exhorbitant they are near impossible to pay. This is a particular difficulty for Horizon Center as we are non-profit and are providing extensive financial aid to needy families. Something most definitely must be done to improve this insurance crisis.

The area of funding is also seriously lacking. Horizon provides over $100,000 in services to needy families with no government reimbursement and no sources available. I cannot stress enough the importance of increasing funding sources. Further it is equally important that the guidelines of funding be placed with the individual, not a specific geographic area and not a specific center (provided they meet appropriate licensing requirements).

I must also recommend the increase of non-profit day care centers. There are thousands of centers trying to turn a profit, which by all means is fine, but there are not enough to provide services to the needy. Horizon is the only non-proit in its area and therefore every business from miles around refers their low income families to us. Frankly, we just can't handle it alone.

Sincerely,

Mary M. Smith

Mary M. Smith
Executive Director

Sylvania Community Services Center

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May 22, 1987

U.S. SENATE HEARING ON DAY CARE
OFFICE OF SENATOR HOWARD M. METZENBAUM
140 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

GORDON J. KOHLER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The number of families with children and both parents working outside the home has increased 250% in the past 20 years in the United States. In Ohio alone over 40% of women with children under age 6 are working outside the home. By 1990 this number is expected to increase to over 60%.

The problem we face now to an increasingly greater degree by 1990 is two-fold: 1. the children of preschool age need good daycare. 2. School age children K-6 need a good Latchkey program.

It can be argued that it is not the responsibility of the State, or government to provide care for children. However, the number of two working parents and the single parent home will increase in the future. If together parents and child care professionals do not work to provide quality care for these children, we will have a generation of psychologically deprived and insecure children.

The state and government have a vital role by insuring through legislation that child care is available, affordable and of high quality. This can be accomplished through legislation that provides additional money for development, and provides safeguards for the children but at the same time is not so restrictive that providers cannot offer the services at resonable cost to the users. Also, both day care and latchkey need to be addressed in separate legislation.

Since our agency provides latchkey I will use that as an example to illustrate the above.

Sylvania Community Services is a non-profit umbrella agency providing recreational, educational and social services in Sylvania and Sylvania Township in Northwest, Ohio. In addition, the Senior Center is also under our direction. Our agency serves a population of 40,000.

In August 1984 our agency using $500 and no other grant or government assistance opened a latchkey center. Our program was designed to provide safe, nurturing enviroment to children where both parents work, single family or an alternative to those who could not afford full time day care.

The program was offered only to school age children and was designed to go beyond babysitting services. Today we offer educational recreation and arts and crafts activities, always keeping in mind that the programs activities are fun and enjoyable for the children and at the same time psychologically benefical.

The program, located in the Burnham Building is open to any child in grades K-8 and who resides in Sylvania, Sylvania Township or the Sylvania School district. Hours of operation are 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and days when schools are closed for Inservice Days. The Sylvania Board of Education provides transportation between the Latchkey center and the schools. The program turns a profit but remains reasonable in costs to families.

We have speakers on health issues, safety, care for pets and child abuse. Also, field trips are offered to parks and museums. We utilize as may local resources as possible in order to contain costs.

In 1984 the program ran with one director and an enrollment of 40 children. Today enrollment is over 100 children with a staff of 5 and a waiting list. A recent survey done by our agency indicated a need to serve 3 times the number now enrolled. The barrier to us expanding is money for facilities and present Ohio legislation. The survey also indicated a need for us to open a full time day care center. Here again we are limited by costs to build or rent additional space and current Ohio legislation.

Licensing for our program is a major issue, and because no specific legislation exist for latchkey we are required to meet day care center licensing requirements.

In principal, our agency does not object to such licensing if it is practical for our type of program and protects and insures the safety and welfare of children. However, when such legislation becomes cumbersome and detrimental to our type of programs, it is time to look in my opinion toward change. Since there exist a major distinction both operationally and programmatically between Latchkey and child day care centers.

First, a Latchkey program, unlike day care, serves a very well-defined, homogeneous group. Our program serves only children attending Sylvania schools. We accept no toddlers or infants. Second, all Latchkey programs are owned, operated and supported by school boards. Our Latchkey program is non-profit and run as a community service not for business purposes. Third, our program is not full-time. It is in operation only during the school year or approximately 186 days. Latchkey programs serve either a total community, depending on size of the community and the Latchkey center, or a school district within a particular community.

Therefore, because of their unique structure, Latchkey programs are provided safeguards by the school and the community that day care centers must have provided by legislation and the state. That is not to say, however that certain standards should not be mandated for Latchkey. It does say the legislation needs to take a new direction.

I would now like to point out some of the requirements that are duplications of standards we already meet and that are both costly and cumbersome to us. However, I must first point out that our program director is a certified teacher.

1) The state requires that each year we have on file a statement from a physician indicating that each child has had a medical examination. First, few children, unless they have major, medical problems, receive annual medical examinations from a physician if required; the cost to the parents and insurance companies would become astronomical. More important, if the children we serve are physically capable of attending school for a full day then they should be physically capable to attend Latchkey. We will not enroll any children in our program who cannot attend Sylvania Public Schools because of health related problems.

2) The state of Ohio requires we have certificates of immunization on file. At the risk of sounding repetitive, all children in our program are enrolled in school. In order to attend school the state requires immunizations and those are kept on file at the schools, it seems a waste of money and time for us to gather identical information, and keep it on file.

3) The State of Ohio requires building inspection of the proposed child care site. Latchkey programs are held in school facilities. These buildings have already met building codes. Again, are unnecessary duplication of information.

I would like to suggest two ways to address the problem of licensing Latchkey programs, and passing national legislation to alleviate the problem. First, if the Latchkey program is board owned and operated, it is exempt from licensing. I would recommend that if a non-profit agency provides the service to the board, and the program is supported by the board then a letter from the board certifying this should exempt the agency from licensing just as if it were a board owned and operated program.

Second, that immediate legislation be drafted to address this problem. There is no question that this type of service is needed and is valuable to the community. Under present legislation a Latchkey program will be both costly and time consuming to operate, and difficult to establish. If the present licensing process continues, many children in our state and across the country will be denied a valuable service because present legislation is so time consuming, costly and prohibitive to opening new programs.

Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony and I would be happy to answer any further questions.

Children's Discovery Center, Inc.

May 26, 1987

Senator Howard Metzenbaum
United States Senate
Committee on Labor and Human Resources
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I assumed that the Senate Hearing on May 22nd at Owens Technical College would encompass the whole day. However, when I arrived at noon, I learned that it was over. From the comments of the participants, I realize that I missed a very informative and timely hearing.

Enclosed is my written testimony which I had hoped to present.

Thank you for your interest in children and young families.

Sincerely,

Lois Mitten
President

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2303 Cheyenne Blvd., • Toledo, OH 43614 • (419) 865-8191

Children's Discovery Center, Inc.

May 22, 1987

The Honorable Howard Metzenbaum and Distinguished Members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources:

My name is Lois Mitten and I am administrator and owner of two large child care centers, Children's Discovery Center, Toledo, Ohio. We currently hold the distinction of being the only child care center in Northwest Ohio that is accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs.

We pursued national accreditation because we believed that it was one tool which would help us achieve excellence, and thereby provide a quality early childhood experience for our children. Most of our teachers have earned baccalaureate degrees in early childhood or elementary education. Optional classes taught by specialists are offered such as art, music, foreign languages and swimming.

We have invested thousands of dollars into our program to ensure quality and an enticing environment. Our fee for preschoolers is $57.00 per week. So a child at our center from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm has all of these experiences for a cost of $1.25 per hour. Second children receive a 35% discount on tuition. Our infant care is $72.00 per week. Most infants are here nine to ten hours a day, so their average cost is approximately $1.50 per hour.

So much is being said about the lack of affordable, quality care. Yet it is available. However, as an owner, I am concerned about the push for legislation to put preschool education into the public schools for two reasons. One is somewhat selfish -- why should I continue to invest thousands of dollars into a program which will soon be obsolete if it is provided free of charge by the government. There is a gross inconsistency here. On one hand, we are encouraged to improve our programs, obtain National Accreditation, increase wages, add enrichment classes, yet at the same time there are indications that the government plans to offer these programs free of charge.

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May 22, 1987

Another concern is professionally based. Dr. Edward Zigler of Yale University states in the March, 1987 issue of American Psychologist that early schooling may be an inappropriate solution to the current crisis in child care for working parents and that children's development may suffer if limited educational funds are expended on nonfunctional programs.

He further states "Those who argue in favor of universal preschool education ignore evidence indicating that early schooling is inappropriate for many four-year-olds and may even be harmful to their development ... Premature schooling can replace valuable play time, potentially slowing or reducing the child's overall development. This is particularly dangerous given the present cognitive thrust in education, increasing the danger of an overemphasis on formal and overly structured academics. The supervision of very young children must be a distinct form of care, suited to the rapid developmental changes and high dependency of these children, not a scaled-down version of a grade-school curriculum".

He also indicates "that we are driving our young children too hard and thereby depriving them of their most precious commodity -- their childhood. The image of four-year olds in designer jeans, miniature executive briefcase in hand may seem cute, but rushing children from cradle to school denies them the freedom to develop at their pace. Children are growing up too fast today and prematurely placing four-year-olds and five-year-olds into full-day preschool education programs will only compound this problem".

I support Dr. Zigler's position. I believe that if parents need to work or desire an early child care experience for their child that it should be developmentally appropriate and be taught by early childhood professionals.

Let us not diminish the quality of education at the elementary or high school level by transferring some of those funds to preschoolers. Instead, let us keep improving those programs so our high school graduates will be adequately equipped for a successful vocational experience and a well-adjusted life.

For our toddlers and preschoolers with working parents, let the government increase the tax credits available to them. Let them select the child care which best suits their situation and the developmental needs of their child. An employer's child care voucher would also be beneficial to working parents.

America has grown and benefited from diversity and the freedom of choice. Let us allow our parents to continue exercising their options.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois M. Mitten
President

Child Care in Greater Columbus

January, 1987

By:
Action for Children
92 Jefferson Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43209

Funded by:
United Community Council Fund and Hattie and Robert Lazarus Fund of the Columbus Foundation

Why?

This report is all about child care in the greater Columbus community. It was commissioned by Action for Children to provide a reliable base of information that could be used to help make decisions about child care programs and funds to support child care activities.

Community leaders and employers in Columbus have recognized that attention to child care is critical. There is growing concern about the child care problems of working parents and single parent families, as well as the serious problems of youth gangs and children unsupervised after school hours. It is generally accepted that values of teenagers and young adults are rooted in early childhood experience, but before this survey there was very little solid information about how young children are cared for now that so many mothers work away from home. This survey answers questions in four areas.

1. What are the current child care arrangements in Franklin County? Who's minding the children? What does it cost? Where and when are people using child care?

2. Are parents satisfied with their child care? What problems have they had in finding and using child care? Does this affect their employment?

3. How many children are left with older siblings or without adult supervision? Is "self-care" a problem perceived by parents?

4. How many households in Franklin County use and need child care services?

With completion of this survey, Columbus becomes one of only a handful of cities in the nation with comprehensive information on the status of child care. It is our hope that it will lead to wise decisions, better child care, and a stronger community.

Contents

About the Survey 2
Expert Panel Guides Study and Recommendations 3
Home-Based Care, Paid Sitters Are Most Popular 4
Comparison of Child Care Expenses 5
Child Care Centers 5
Older Sibling Care 6
Self-Care Used by 13,100 Households 7
Employment and Child Care 8
Who's at Work? 8
Single Parents and Low-Income Have Child Care Problems 9
Are Parents Satisfied with Child Care? 10
Recommendations for Child Care in Greater Columbus 11

About the Survey

Parents were asked: "Is it difficult to find child care? Who is the most important source of child care information? Why is child care used? How often? Does it interfere with the parent's employment opportunities?"

In late summer 1986, Action for Children sponsored a scientific survey designed to find out about child care arrangements and needs in the greater Columbus area. A sample of 500 households with children ages 12 or under participated in telephone interviews. The interviewer asked to speak with "the person most familiar with the day-to-day care and needs of your children." Not surprisingly, interviewers most often talked with mothers, but in some families the "most familiar" person was a father, grandmother, or even an aunt or other relative.

Five hundred homes were selected to represent Franklin County, with specific characteristics of those interviewed carefully matched so that results of the interviews could be reliably projected to the entire county. The 500 households included in the sample contained 895 children ages 12 or under—that's 1.79 children per household, a number comparable to the national average. (See **Who Did We Survey?** for more information about the characteristics of individuals interviewed.)

According to updated projections from the 1980 census there are 87,500 Franklin County households with at least one child age 12 or under. This household number was used as the base to project results from this child care survey. Results in this report are reported as number or percent of households, not as individual children or families.

A questionnaire was used to direct the interviews. It was developed by a local market research firm with consultation from a panel of child care experts. This questionnaire included questions about all kinds of child care including the use of paid sitters, child care centers, care by older siblings, and children who are home alone (self-care). Parents were asked: "Is it difficult to find child care? Who is the most important source of child care information? Why is child care used? How often? Does it interfere with the parent's employment opportunities?"

The survey was conducted by The Davon Group, a Columbus-based planning and research firm. Funding was provided through a special grant by the United Community Council Fund and the Hattie and Robert Lazarus Fund of the Columbus Foundation.

Who Did We Survey?

Race	
White	80%
Black	18%
Marital Status	
Married Couples	83%
Single Head of Household	17%**
Employment	
Married, one-parent working	40%
Married, both parents working	39%
Single parent working	15%
Student, unemployed, other	6%
Income	
Less than $15,000	11%
$15,000 to $24,000	19%
$24,001 to $34,000	30%
More than $34,000	30%
Gender	
Female	81%
Male	19%
Age	
25 or younger	7%
26-30	25%
31 to 35	34%
36 to 40	21%
Over 40	11%
Education	
Grade School or Less	1%
Some High School	8%
High School Graduate	33%
Some College/ Technical	29%
College Graduate	19%
Post Graduate	10%

*Unknown and "other" categories omitted.

**Single heads of households were slightly under-represented in this survey. According to 1980 census data, approximately 21% of Franklin County households were headed by a single parent.

Expert Panel Guides Study and Recommendations

An expert panel of child care professionals and community leaders guided this child care survey. In the early stages of the study, committee members helped define information to be collected and reviewed the questionnaire. After information was collected, the committee spent an intense two-day session to review information and make recommendations based on the results. Committee members are:

C. Ray Williams, Ph.D.
The Ohio State University
Department of Education

Judy Fountain, Director
Child Care Program
The Ohio State University

Alice Johnson
Columbus Public Schools
Metropolitan Home and Family Life

David Julian
Metropolitan Human Services Commission

William Loadman, Ph.D.
The Ohio State University
Department of Education

Carl Porter, Executive Director
Westside/Eastside Child Care Centers Association

Helen Cain Sheppard
Ohio Department of Mental Health
Action for Children Board of Trustees

Marilyn Tormey, President
Action for Children Assisting Board

Charles Wallace, Director
Columbus Child Care Center
Action for Children Board of Trustees

Technical Report Available

For additional information about the survey, a technical report is available. The report contains an Executive Summary, detailed analysis, questionnaire, and data tables. Cost of the Technical Report is $12. Make checks payable to Action for Children. You can write Action for Children, 92 Jefferson Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43215, or telephone 614-224-0222.

35% Home-Based Care
13% (full day) **12%** (half day) Child Care Center
9% Older Sibling Care
15% Self-Care

What kind of child care is used for children under 12?

Child Care Used	% of Sample	Projected households in Franklin Co.*
1. Home Based Care (paid sitter in the child's own home or someone else's home)	35%	30,600
2. Full day care (center)	13%	11,300
Partial day care or preschool	12%	10,600
3. Care by an older sibling (child's own home)	9%	7,900
4. Self-care (children left without supervision over one hour)	15%	13,100

*The number of households are projected from updates of 1980 household census data for Franklin County. Sampling error is plus or minus 5%. All projections are rounded to nearest hundred.

Home-Based Care

Paid Sitters are Most Popular

The most widely used form of child care is home-based care—a paid sitter in the child's home or the home of the provider. In fact, two out of three homes (66%) used home-based care in the past year, and one in three homes (35%) said they use home-based care at least twice a week on a regularly scheduled basis. Based on this percentage, there are 30,600 households in Franklin County who regularly use home-based care.

Who is caring for the children at home? And whose home is most often used? About half (55%) of regularly scheduled home care occurs in the home of the child care provider. The provider is described as:

- a person especially recruited for child care 38%
- a friend 32%
- relative 24%
- other 6%

Most of the regularly scheduled home care occurs because parents are working. In 84% of the cases, parents cite jobs as the reason why they use a sitter—this means 27,500 households in Franklin County. Other reasons for regularly using a sitter are shopping, social activities, and errands.

A reliable child care provider is important to the regular users of home-based care. Seventy-nine percent of the regular users say their dependence on the caregiver is "very great." And, in eight of ten households, users say they are very happy with their care-giver with no change planned. However, in 19% of the households, users say they have "mixed feelings" or are "not very happy" with their child care arrangements. Ten percent of the regular users are actually looking for new child care arrangements and another 9% say they are thinking about a change. This means there are 3200 households that are actually looking for new child care arrangements, and another 2600 who are thinking about making a change. For those who say they want to change, the primary reason for change is "discomfort with the caregiver."

The average weekly cost for home-based child care is $39.80, but the most-frequently reported cost is $50. The amount parents spend is comparable to center-based care but parents generally obtain more hours of coverage for the same cost in home-based care. (See Comparison of Child Care Expenses)

Child care experts who reviewed the survey results said they have important implications for parents and their use of community resources. There are 5800 households who are thinking about changes or actually looking for new child care arrangements even though their children are now in home-based care. This means there is a clear and important need to have consistent child care information available. They also noted that most child care in homes is not monitored by any agency. This means parents must be especially careful to screen homes for safety and quality. Thousands of children are affected by these informal child care arrangements.

Comparison of Child Care Expenses

	Home-Based Care	Center-Based Care	
		Full-Day	Half-Day
Avg. weekly expense	$39.80	$54.94	$25.28
Maximum weekly payment	$125	$120	$77
Most frequently reported weekly expense	$50	$50 $60	$12 $13
% of parents paying:			
less than $20 weekly	27%	2%	59%
$21 to $40 per week	31%	26%	29%
More than $40	43%	71%	12%
% of parents using care five or more days weekly	61%	80%	25%
% of parents using four or more hours daily	58%	45%	none

In Franklin County, 11,300 households have children in full-day center programs, and 10,600 have children in half-day programs.

Child Care Centers

The second-most used kind of child care (27%) are structured programs in pre-schools or child care centers. There are 23,600 households in Franklin County using child care centers or pre-schools.

Most of the children attending child care centers are under age six. About half attend full-day programs, and half attend partial day programs. In Franklin County, 11,300 households have children in full-day center programs, and 10,600 have children in half-day programs. Not surprisingly, the full-day programs are more likely than half-day programs to be the primary child care for parents at work.

Here's what users say about their full-day center program.

- 82% say employment is the primary reason for use.
- 80% use them five or more days a week.
- 75% say their dependence on the center is "very great."

Here's what users say about their half-day center program.

- 32% say employment is the primary reason for use.
- 58% say social or educational experience for the child is the primary reason for use.
- 43% say their dependence on the center is "very great."

The cost for center-based care varies. Average expense for full-day care in a center is $54.94 per week, with a range from less than $30 per week to $120 per week. For half-day programs, the average weekly expense is $25.28 with a cost range from less than $10 per week to more than $70 per week. The most frequently reported weekly expense was $50 to $60 for full-day programs and $12 to $13 for half-day programs.

The majority of child care center and pre-school users are satisfied with their child care arrangements. Eighty-two percent say they have "no change planned" with their present arrangements, and that they are "very happy" with their child care center. Only 8% of those questioned say they are "actually looking" for a change, with 5% saying they are "not very happy." Translated to number of households, this means that 18,900 households in Franklin County are satisfied with their child care center and plan no changes. There are 1,800 actually looking for change, with 1,100 who are "not very happy." For those who were dissatisfied, the reasons most often mentioned were lack of individual attention, or expense of the program.

Older Sibling Care

In 9% of the households, older-children watch younger children while adults are away from home. There are an estimated 7,900 households using sibling care in Franklin County. Shopping, errands, and social activities are the primary reasons for sibling care, but 23% use older siblings because parents are at work (1,800 homes). Perhaps for this reason, dependence on sibling care is less pressing than for home child care or child care centers. Only 42% of those surveyed said their dependence was "very great." Cost for sibling care is quite low, with average payments being $3.50 per week.

In nine of ten cases, the older sibling was 13 or older. The older sibling's age was:

11-12	6%
13-14	32%
15-16	32%
17-18	9%
19+	19%

Parents were quite satisfied with this kind of care. Ninety-one percent said they had no change planned, and 73% said they were "very happy and comfortable" with the sibling care arrangement. In spite of this reported satisfaction, 25% said they had "mixed feelings" about their sibling care with the biggest problem cited as children fighting

Experts who reviewed the research report suggested that the "mixed feelings" were a recognition on the part of parents that sibling care can pose special problems for families. They recommended that additional resources for child care programs may be needed—especially after-school programs for school-age children.

6

Self-Care is Used by 13,100 households

Every parent faces the decision of when children can be left without supervision. It is a question of individual parent judgment, with no legal age specified by courts because even children who are the same age have widely varying abilities. Families and neighborhood circumstances also play an important part in determining when a child can safely be left alone. What are this community's attitudes about when children can be left alone? And, how many elementary school children care for themselves?

Interviewers asked each person, "What is the youngest age that you think a child could be left alone for a period of one hour or longer?" Eighty per cent of people questioned said they thought age ten or older was the minimum age.

What is the youngest age that you think a child could be left alone for a period of one hour or longer?

Here's what survey respondents said.

Eight years old	7%
Nine years old	6%
10 years old	27%
11 years old	11%
12 or older	48%

Afternoon is the most common time parents report leaving children at home.

Thirty-nine percent of the parents report mixed feelings about self-care and another 9% say they are "not very happy."

On a day-to-day basis, most parents say they are reluctant to leave their children alone—in fact, 75% of the parents say they NEVER leave children under 12 to care for themselves. Nine percent say less than an hour, 4% say one hour, 8% say 2 to 3 hours, and only 3% say they leave their children without supervision for four to five hours. No households reported leaving children under twelve for more than five hours. Of the children who are alone for one hour or more, almost nine out of ten households report having special arrangements like neighbors nearby or rules about locked doors and visitors. Of the parents who do leave children, 22% say they regularly leave children for work, 50% said they leave children while they are shopping or running errands, and 28% cite other reasons. Afternoon is the most common time parents report leaving children at home. Researchers suggest these are "latch-key" children, alone after school.

As with other forms of child care, most parents are planning to continue using their present child care arrangements. Eighty-five percent say they have no change planned. In spite of this, many parents report mixed feelings about the arrangements (39%), and another 9% say they are "not very happy" with the self-care arrangement.

It is safe to say there are at least 13,100 households where parents are willing to leave children in self-care for an hour or more. Some 3,900 households leave children under 12 alone while parents are working, and another 9,100 leave children while parents shop or run errands. Finally, there are at least 2,800 households who leave children alone because their parents say they are unable to find other suitable arrangements.

Single parents and black families most often say they can't find, or can't afford other forms of care. The panel of experts reviewing the research recommended that the community look at special after-school programs and ways to make supervised care affordable for this group of families. They also point out that there is strong societal pressure to provide good supervision so that parents who participated in the survey may have under-reported the use of self-care. Therefore, this research is "the most conservative estimate" of households who routinely leave children alone.

Employment and Child Care

Employment outside the home is the primary reason given for child care arrangements. About half of those surveyed report that they use regular child care because of their employment. And, though most people are not planning child care changes, finding good, affordable child care presents a problem for a large number of households. Problems mentioned are those that employers have long recognized on a case-by-case basis. They include lateness, problems in holding a job because of unreliable child care, and problems when children are sick.

Based on answers given in this survey there are:

- 17,500 households where sick children have caused parents to miss work.
- 11,400 families who report that job opportunities are limited because of inadequate child care.
- 8,800 households where parents say child care arrangements have made them late for work.
- 3,500 households who say that child care has caused them problems in holding a job.

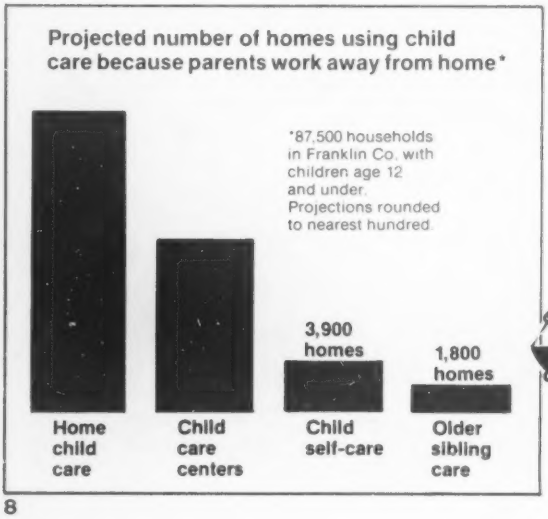
The traditional family with mothers at home and fathers working is only 40% of this sample. (See Who's At Work?) This means that although child care is still primarily a family responsibility, the community is broadly affected by these changes.

Who's At Work?

	% of population	Household
Married Couple, one parent working away from home	40%	35,000
Married Couple, both parents working away from home	39%	34,100
Single household head, working	15%	13,100
Other (student, not working, retired)	6%	5,300

A panel of child care experts who reviewed this research noted that single heads of household and low income families were much more likely to report problems in balancing employment and child care. They recommended that special attention be given to child care assistance for parents in this situation.

Experts also recommended that whenever possible, employers consider child care benefits as one of the options for employees. Programs such as child care counseling, information and referral, and other child-care benefits have helped both families and employers with increased productivity when parents are at work.


Projected number of homes using child care because parents work away from home*
*87,500 households in Franklin Co. with children age 12 and under. Projections rounded to nearest hundred.
3,900 homes
1,800 homes
Home child care
Child care centers
Child self-care
Older sibling care

23% of single working parents and 26% low-income people reported that lack of good child care had limited the kinds of jobs they could find.

Single Parents and Low Income Households Have More Child Care Problems

Single parents and low-income households are consistently more likely to report child care problems. When compared with the overall sample, single parent households are more likely to report:

- they feel less informed about child care options.
- they are more dissatisfied with present child care arrangements
- they have had much more trouble and disappointment in finding adequate child care
- lack of adequate child care has limited job opportunity
- children's illness has caused them to miss work.

Low income families also show a higher percentage of problems than the general sample, especially in lack of information. Fifty-two percent of the low-income families say they are not well informed about child care services, compared with 39% of the total population. This lack of information is especially difficult since they are more likely to say they've been unable to find suitable care and to believe that lack of child care has limited their employment opportunities.

Child care experts who reviewed the survey found this information troubling, but not surprising. Experts recommended that creative and widespread information strategies are needed to tell these target populations about child care resources. They also pointed out that in many cases, lack of income limited child care options. Additional subsidies are needed to aid families who want to work but cannot find affordable child care. Experts suggested additional collaboration between child care and work programs for low-income families is needed to improve child care to single parents and low-income households.

Child Care Experiences of Select Groups*

	Total	Working Single	Black	Low Income	Working Couple	Wife Home
Not well informed about child care services	39%	**48%**	42%	52%	**33%**	45%
Dissatisfied with current child care arrangement	6%	14%	10%	11%	4%	7%
Changed child care in past year	16%	**22%**	11%	**22%**	19%	12%
Reason for change						
—Expense	5%	**18%**	0%	**17%**	3%	3%
—Discomfort with provider	12%	6%	18%	16%	14%	14%
—Hours inconvenient	12%	12%	9%	0%	17%	0%
—Location inconvenient	8%	0%	0%	0%	14%	8%
Looked for and could not find suitable care in the past	22%	**33%**	23%	24%	28%	16%
Employment impact of child care						
—Limited kinds of jobs	13%	**23%**	14%	**27%**	16%	11%
—Caused lateness	10%	16%	12%	18%	13%	7%
—Problem holding job	4%	**13%**	8%	16%	1%	5%
—Problems with children's illness	20%	16%	24%	26%	26%	11%

*Compare percentages of select groups (Bold type) with percentages of total.

75-330 - 87 - 5

Are Parents Satisfied with Child Care?

In general, most people in the survey said they are satisfied with their present child care arrangements. In fact, more than nine out of ten said they are "satisfied," or very satisfied." There are, however, 5% who say they are dissatisfied, and another 1% who are "very dissatisfied" with their current arrangements.

Although this is a small percent of the overall total, it is a substantial number, when these percentages are applied to the total number of households. Projections show there are **5,200 households dissatisfied with their current arrangements—enough people to fill Veteran's Memorial Auditorium with 1,200 people left standing outside.**

Dissatisfaction with child care shows up in other ways too. For example, 16% of those questioned said they changed child care providers in the past year. **This means 14,000 households changed child care arrangements last year—enough people to fill St. John Arena at the Ohio State University.**

Still more people (22%) said they had tried to find child care in the past and been dissatisfied with what was available. This means 18,900 households who have experienced this frustration and worry.

There are 5,200 households dissatisfied with their current arrangements—enough people to fill Veteran's Memorial Auditorium with 1,200 people left standing outside.

There are thousands of parents actively looking for child care. In home child care there are 3,200, and of those using child care centers, there are 1,800 actively looking. Of the children in self-care, 2,800 households admit that they leave children alone because they are not able to find other suitable arrangements.

The child care experts who reviewed satisfaction data pointed out that at any time, there are thousands of Franklin County families having difficulty with child care. They need information and resources to help make good decisions. This number, experts believe, is the "most conservative" estimate because parents are often reluctant to admit there are problems with present arrangements. When a family has gone to the trouble to plan child care, they are not likely to look too closely for problems because of the inconvenience involved in making a change.

There is also lack of child care information about child care choices. Thirty-nine percent of those questioned said they did not feel adequately informed about child care choices. This means an estimated **34,100 households who admit they do not have good information.** Friends and relatives are the most frequent source of information (70%) and social service agencies (6%) were the second most frequent source. All other sources were 2% or less of the total.

The panel of child care experts who reviewed this data recommended that the Action for Children information service be more widely publicized so the thousands of parents looking for care can call for information about resources. The experts recognized though, that even with wider use of the information and referral services parents will continue to have problems with child care choices because in many cases, affordable child care is not available.

Recommendations for Child Care in the Greater Columbus Community

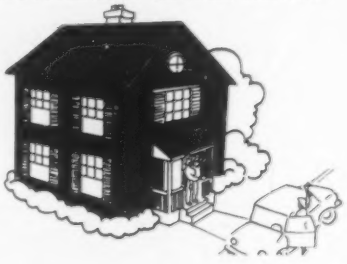
An expert panel of child care professionals reviewed the survey data during a two-day work session and made recommendations for child care in the greater Columbus community. Their recommendations were:

1. Parents need to know how to judge quality in child care, and how to find child care they can trust.

- 34,100 households say they have inadequate information about child care choices.
- 14,000 households changed child care in the past year. Nearly half of those who changed cited dissatisfaction as the reason for change.
- 5,200 parents are dissatisfied with their current child care arrangements.

2. Parents need improved information about home-based care.

Although home-based care is the most widely used form of child care (30,600 households) it is unregulated. There are no minimum standards set by county or state agencies so it is essential that consumers be educated to make wise choices. Action for Children's registered child care homes present a good model for standards and increased community education.



3. Special programs are needed to help parents and children using self-care and sibling care.

There are 3,900 households who regularly leave children under 12 alone while parents are working. Another 1,800 are left with older siblings while parents are at work. A sizable number of children are left because parents say they are unable to make other suitable child care arrangements. The panel recommended increased education for parents and children about safety practices as well as creation of supervised after-school programs or other forms of affordable child care.

4. More help should be given to low-income and single-parent families because of special problems they encounter. This support includes starting new programs and supporting and expanding existing ones.

Research showed that single-parent and low-income families are more likely to encounter problems in finding adequate child care, and more likely to have changed child care providers because of problems. They need information about child care choices, as well as affordable programs that can provide good quality care.

5. Additional emphasis should be placed on programs that help working parents.

About six out of ten households in the survey showed mothers or single parents working outside the home. These households have a special need for child care information. In addition, child care problems were reported as an employment barrier in thousands of households.

- 17,500 households reported disruption in their jobs because of childhood illness.
- 11,400 households reported that job opportunities were limited because of a lack of adequate child care.
- 8,800 households reported they were sometimes late to work because of child care problems.

Because of these pressing needs, improved coordination is needed between the job training and placement agencies and the child care agencies that help eliminate employment barriers.

An employer education program about the advantages of child care benefits should be expanded. Steps should be taken to further develop tax benefits and incentives for employers who choose to offer child care to their employees. Companies who provide child care benefits should receive public recognition as a way to stimulate increased programs and concern for child care.

Published, 1987

Action for Children

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STATEMENT OF LISA LADUKE

June 28, 1986
5:00pm

Dear Sirs;

I am writing in regards to the bill which has been introduced as an incentive for Day Care Providers and Proposed Day Care Center Operators.

I've recently been contacted by Barbra Carson of Fayette County Human Services, who has informed me of your proposed bill. It is my understanding from the literature which I recieved from your office you wanted a written statement from me, stating my intentions as a Day Care Center Operator.

I am a resident of Washington Court House, which is located in Fayette County, Ohio. As of this date our community is in great need of child care. At the present we have one center which is a non-profit organization; which only accepts children from age 3 to 13 years. As you may already know Fayette Co. Human Services is at a great shortage for home providers. The community is in great need of child care services and I am willing and ready to provide this service.

I have contacted several realators and have decided on a particular lot imwhich I intend to build. It is commercially zoned and located

on a State Route, in a prominant area within the city limits.

I am planning to open my center in the fall of this year, through which I will accept 0mo. to 5 yrs. of age. As I earlier stated there is a great need for child care of this kind in our community.

In the past few months I rnet with Kelly Cole of the State Day Care Licensing, and have completed most of the preliminary paper work. I have also made arrangements to contract with Fayette County Human Services. I plan to have a 56 child occupancy and 1/2 of which will be Human Service's placements.

It would be of great importance to me to get a guaranteed loan with deferred payments, to get my program on it's feet, So as to provide our community with professional child care services.

Thank-You;
Lisa A. LaDuke

Miami Valley Child Development Centers, Inc.
1034 SUPERIOR AVENUE • DAYTON, OHIO 45407 • (513) 278-8293

MARILYN E. THOMAS
Executive Director

May 28, 1987

U.S. Senate Hearing on Day Care
Office of Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum:

Thank you for the opportunity to present MVCDC's views regarding the need for child care and especially HEAD START.

Since the 1980's, child care is simply good business, more parents of pre-school children have entered the work force. For many parents each day is a logistical challenge dropping off and picking up children, meeting bus schedules and hoping school does not let out early, when all goes well mom or dad are at work on time.

Work productivity can suffer when parents feel uneasy about their child's care. Businesses could use options such as on-site care, or off-site care. There is a 250% increase in the number of working mothers with pre-school children in Ohio within the past two decades, over 2/3 work full time. Over 1/4 of the working mothers have husbands earning less than $10,000 per year. Child care is often 1/4 - 1/5 highest item in the family budget.

Please review the attached testimony. If there are any questions, feel free to contact me.

MVCDC wishes to express our sincere appreciation for your day care legislation and you have our support. A child's tomorrow is today. We must save our most precious resource.

Sincerely,

Betty Toney

Betty Toney
Assistant Director for Programs

BT:bc

cc: M. Thomas, Executive Director

Attachments

Miami Valley Child Development Centers, Inc.

1034 SUPERIOR AVENUE • DAYTON, OHIO 45407 • (513) 278-8293

MARILYN E. THOMAS
Executive Director

TESTIMONY

Submitted to: Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
Date: May 28, 1987
Purpose: U. S. Senate Hearing on Day Care

Definition of Problem

There is a lack of sufficient quality affordable child care for low income pre-school children. Adequate child care for pre-school children is a pressing need for many. HEAD START dollars do not provide services to all eligible families. Every dollar invested in Head Start will net the community $7.00 in the long run and $3.00 in the short run from reducing special education placements, grade retentions and from freeing parents to work.* Public investment in children, including a strong federal role, is necessary to reach the goal of preserving the family. Cost-effective programs such as HEAD START are needed both, to help our low income children today and save the community money tomorrow.

*Children's Defense Fund Research.

Extent of the Problem

Project HEAD START is a comprehensive child development program designed to help economically disadvantaged pre-schoolers. Over 90 percent of all Head Start families live below the federal poverty line of $11,000 per a family of four. A minimum of 10 percent of the children are handicapped.

Over the past several years, inadequate funding levels for Head Start have threatened its effectiveness. In the 1981-82 year, elimination of the Public Service Employment component of CETA caused Head Start to lose workers.

Reductions in other federal programs like Medicaid have further eroded the ability of Head Start to fulfill its comprehensive mandate. For example, in the health area, Head Start programs' are forced to pay for services previously covered through other funding sources:

- o More dentists and doctors refuse to accept Medicaid cards because of Medicaid cutbacks

MVCDC has a waiting list of 225 eligible children as of January 31, 1987; however, Children's Defense Fund research estimates 6,000 below income pre-school children in Montgomery County.

Effect of the Problem

Programs for children have been demonstrated to be among the most cost-effective government efforts in preventing larger government spending later in life. More than two million children have been added to the nation's poor in the last two years. There are increases in child abuse and neglect. Over five million children of working parents spend part of the day in inadequate and unsupervised arrangements. Low income working parents who are in school or training programs are among those hardest hit by child care costs.

*See attached Newsweek (Feb. 2, 1987) article.

Services Needed to Address the Problem

More HEAD START services are needed to provide service to eligible families. The role that an early childhood development program can play in promoting a child's development has impressed a broad range of policymakers. Most poor children are not getting an equal opportunity to participate in early child development programs. The first four or five years of a child's life are a critical period.

Funding

MVCDC new program and funding year began February 1, 1987. The Department of Health and Human Services has awarded a grant of $2,385,267. A minimum of 1,290 Head Start children in Montgomery, Clark, Butler and Madison Counties are to receive Head Start services. Approximately, $1,849 per child per year is the annual cost.

NOTE: MVCDC would strongly recommend the reading of the Children's Defense Budget (an analysis of the FY1987 Federal Budget and children). MVCDC would be willing to loan our copy or order through Children's Defense Fund, 122 C Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001, (202) 628-8787.

All MVCDC Child Care Centers are licensed by the State Department of Human Services.

/bc

James

Lucas County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities
2001 COLLINGWOOD BOULEVARD • TOLEDO, OHIO 43620 • (419) 248-3585

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Statement of Vivian Pope, ACSW, LISW QMRP
For the United States Senate Labor Sub-Committee Hearing
on the Metzenbaum Day care Bill
Toledo, Ohio, May 22, 1987

As a social worker who has served families of mentally retarded persons for the past 18 years, I appreciate the opportunity to write to you about the need for day care centers that can successfully accommodate handicapped and developmentally delayed children. While a few specialized facilities might be needed to care for children with severe medical problems, I am firmly convinced that most children with developmental delays and handicaps can be cared for in the same environments that serve normal children. I cite the Headstart program as a primary example of successful integration of handicapped children with normal children.

Susan McFarland, president of the Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children has stated that day care is difficult to find for poor families, for children under 3, and for children who need care after school or in the evening. I would concur totally with Ms. McFarland's statement, adding that the problems of parents with handicapped children are compounded by the children's medical needs, physical and emotional stresses, and the fears and superstitions which, unfortunately, still attach themselves to these children.

I would like to present two examples directly from my own recent experience:

1. Mary is a two year old child diagnosed as functioning like an average 10 month old. Because there is no day care available for Mary and also because of her medical needs, both parents are limited to part-time jobs. As a result, their combined incomes are at poverty level.
   Mary is too young to attend school. The day care centers I contacted would not accept Mary because she is not toilet trained. One that would have accepted her was filled and could only put her on a waiting list. The private funding sources I called were able to provide financial help only a few weeks, and the family cannot afford an average day care cost of $45.00 a week.

The Lucas County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities does not discriminate in the provision of services or employment because of handicap, race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age.

One possible day care home available with Title XX funding was on the opposite side of town where Mary's parents live and work. They cannot afford the travel time or the gasoline. They are just hanging in and waiting it out till Mary starts pre-school at age 3. Then they will still need after-school care for her if they are ever to have a moderate income.

2. Ernest is a 14 year old boy whose mental retardation resulted from a malignant brain tumor which was removed when he was an infant. (Ernest attends a junior high class for multiply handicapped children. He and his two younger sisters arrived home from school about 3; mother came home from work at 6. Ernest's 12 year old sister was responsible for his care. Ernest resented being "bossed" by his younger sister. He became violent and destructive. Sometimes his mother had to come home from work to settle him down, risking loss of her job. An available low cost community after-school program would have been ideal for Ernest; but the service was only for children under 12; the director said he was too short staffed to give individual attention to any child; and I suspect they were afraid of Ernest. Ernest now lives in a foster home.

I believe that problems like the above can be alleviated by:

1. Providing incentive payments to day care centers to serve handicapped children and making such services mandatory for any center receiving federal funding.

2. Requiring high ratios of staff to children so that individual attention can be given as needed.

3. Requiring staff members to receive training in working with handicapped and developmentally delayed children.

4. Providing for state certification-or licensing- to serve handicapped children and also for ongoing monitoring of centers to maintain high quality of services.

5. Providing financial assistance to parents so they can use these

facilities.

6. Providing medical screenings for all children.

The above requirements would benefit all children. By helping the handicapped child, we would improve the quality of care for all the children in these centers.

Finally, this plan would give parents of handicapped children some freedom of choice in selecting a day care program that would best meet the needs of the child. Quality of care, attitude of staff, the physical setting, and geographical location are all important components.

I hope this statement will be of use to you in presenting the need for the Day Care Working Families Act. Again, thank you for this opportunity to communicate my thoughts on this subject.

Vivian Pope

Seneca County
Department of Human Services
and Child Welfare Services

May 19, 1987

U.S. Senator Howard Metzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum:

I just received a notice of the hearing to be held at Owens Tech on 5-22-87. I will be unable to attend due to prior commitments, however, I am taking this opportunity to express my thoughts to you.

I am a social worker at the Seneca County Department of Human Services and I work full-time as a day care coordinator (this is not my official title, but I think it should be), and have held this job for one and a half years. I have an A.B. in Early Childhood Education and I love my job.

I believe that money spent in providing "affordable" day care is money well spent. In my additional seven years of working for Seneca County Department of Human Services, I have witnessed many people, men, women, and families alike, who have remained on the welfare rolls because working a low paying job was not advantageous when having to pay day care expenses. Given an "affordable" means of day care, I feel many people would be working rather than collecting their checks from the government.

Day Care Centers serve their purpose and are nice in many situations, but having worked so closely with in-home Day Care Providers, I still feel that children should be taught at home if at all possible, especially infants. I hate seeing infants in day care centers! We have an excellent group of Day Care Providers in our fairly rural county and they have become "quality" providers through training. I feel that the training requirement was an excellent move.

I have communicated with some surrounding counties and have learned that some do not have full-time day care workers. It is hard to understand sometimes how similar counties can differ so much. I am sure that the need also exists in their county as it does in ours, but for some administrative reason, they are not putting full effort into the program. I sometimes feel that our job should be separate from Human Services so that we can give 100% to day care services and casework, but is that feasible?

To sum things up I guess my bottom line opinion is that the government should spend more on day care - help for the working people - and less on "welfare". Thanks for all that you have already done to help this cause and I hope you continue to work toward your stated goals and proposed projects. They sound like programs from which our fellow taxpayers can truly benefit.

Very truly yours,

Susan L. Simpkins

Susan L. Simpkins, Social Worker

SLS/db
C. Jean Butz, Supervisor

Tiffin
(419) 447-5011

3362 South Township Road 151
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

Fostoria
(419) 435-9296

628 Warren Ave.
Washington C.H.,Oh.43160
May 26, 1987

87 JUN -1 AM 8:57

U.S. Senate Hearings on Day Care
Honorable Senator Howard Menzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington D.C., 20510

Dear Honorable Senator Menzenbaum,
I am an advocate for Day Care assistance in all the areas you and your add your Subcommittee are proposing legislature to cover.

In the stressful economic world of today, with both heads of a household working and most of them needing both incomes, plus the tremendous number of single parent households. I see a present and future need for incentives for businesses to provide Day Care services thru their own resources or contracting for it.

Safeguards for children in Day Care should be just that but it should be considered carefully as well as thoroughly and strive to a"happy medium" between state legislation (at least in Ohio) on Day Care and Foster Care rules.

Guaranteed loans for construction of Day Care Centers in our area would assist progress here for service. At present Fayette County has only one daytime service center with limited hours and enrollment. It is sponsored by the Bapist Church and is very independent. They charge less than the Federal & State funded Day Care Program here and refuse to contract with that program although they receive assistance thru the food program for their very exclusive clientele and their enrollment is only half of their limit. They do not cover the twenty-four hour need nor infants and younger toddlers. Other churches have only two hour daily sessions.

We really need Day Care for the financilly eligible low income families and my feeling is that their children are the ones needing an earlier learning experience.

We can see what strides Head Start has made for beginning school students. I can see these Day Care programs as a help with raising their living standards and expectations as well as a meaningful support to do these things. Their parenting skills (with professional helps and guidance) can be better developed too. Most important is the potential in all areas for that new generation (the children).

The future Day Care service need is expected to grow with our population needs and would be used if the parents are secure in and for Day Care arrangements.

Your terms affordable and available coincide with my feelings and findings exactly.

Thank you for this consideration.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Barbara J. Carson

MERRICK HOUSE
SETTLEMENT AND DAY NURSERY
1050 STARKWEATHER AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44113
771-5077

June 1, 1987

Office of Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
U.S. Senate Hearing on Day Care
140 Russel Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I am gratified to know that you are instrumental, as a member of the Senate Labor subcommittee on day care, in researching and upgrading this badly - needed service. It is my observation that the current Administration does not heavily invest in day care, however, the need for federal funds for child day care is apparent.

Thanks to the Title XX Act, the economically disadvantaged and/or single parent has access to subsidized day care services, enabling her to work and/or attend school. Each parent is working to acquire a marketable skill and to become gainfully employed. The program has successfully helped hundreds of parents from my Center alone. The need, however, is still great. I have at the Merrick House alone twenty-nine more parents (in addition to the thirty-five subsidized clients currently served) awaiting care. As a provider of this service, I see the pressing need for more subsidized day care slots.

Please take this message back to the other members of the U.S. Senate. If adults are to go to work, then obviously they need care for their children. Studies have also shown that in the job market place, parents of children who are enrolled in quality child care programs (and subsidized programs, with their build-in quality controls, exemlify the highest of standards) are more productive at their own work.

Very truly yours,

Kathleen M. Ansberry
Kathleen M. Ansberry
Director of Day Care

A United Way Agency

Westminster Child Care Center

1301 Broadway Street
Toledo, Ohio 43609
(419) 243-3700

Margaret S. Matthews • Administrator

June 3, 1987

Senator Howard Metzenbaum
140 Russell
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I recently attended the hearings at Owen's Technical College in Toledo and was most inpressed by the informative panel and ideas they presented. I am so pleased that the issue of child care is being heard by public officials. So many times I have felt that what I do for my livlihood is frowned upon or treated with disrespect or contempt. I thank you for listening to the families and other professionals who know how important we are to the future of the United States.

I have included a statement that I hope will be included in the official record of the United States Hearing. I would also appreciate learning of any events or efforts on this issue in the future.

Sincerely,

Margaret Stewart Matthews

Margaret Stewart Matthews

Growing Together

Recently a hearing was held in the Toledo area on day care issues. I commend Senator Howard Metzenbaum for focusing attention on this vitally important issue. The need for quality child care services and support for the many children and their families who are searching for a good place to care for their children is paramount. The persons who are already involved with this field can tell you the need is there and increasing every year.

I am currently the director of a non-profit, church sponsored child care center that is located in one of Toledo's central city neighborhoods and has been in opperation for six years. The families served by Westminster Child Care Center are Hispanic and white with many single parent homes and blended families represented. Most of our parents work in service industries, as secretaries, and as laborers. We do not serve the more affluent "yuppie" population but serve the working class. Many of these families exist on low incomes and their day care center expenses take a big portion of their weekly paychecks even taking into consideration our very low fee of $45.00 a week for full time child care. For many the alternative to working for a low wage is welfare and that is a alternative they do not wish to consider. To provide additional support for these families would help stabilize their lives, keep them working which helps the economy, and get their children off to a good start educationally and socially.

Standards for child care in this country needs to be standardized. Ratios of children and caregivers are very important in defining quality of care. There are so many variations now regarding standards that each state promotes different definitions of "quality". By having a national code of quality or minimum standards children all over the country would be assured of equal care.

Staff in a child care center is the most important part of the center's make up. Our staff can be described as dedicated, educated, committed, and loving. However these important characteristics are rewarded with low wages, few benefits, little job security, and no respect from the community at large. I feel that in a sense we child care workers subsidize the families we serve by working for such low wages. I question the fairness of the current situation but know that this is

where I belong as a professional. I am compelled by my conscience, abilities, and satisfaction in seeing young lives changed to remain in this occupation and I know the others on my staff feel the same. Recognition of our professions value to our society begins with the recognition financially of our worth. This will recognize the fact that we need to have well trained, well educated, and caring persons in this field and in the lives of our country's future, our children.

Thank you once again for investigating this area of our country's life that has for so long been looked at as unimportant.

Submitted by:

Margaret Stewart Matthews
Director
Westminster Child Care Center
1301 Broadway St.
Toledo, OH 43609
419-243-3700

Kno-Ho-Co Day Care

Hiawatha Community Service Center
71 Sychar Rd. — P.O. Box 930
Mt. Vernon, OH 43050
614-393-7976

U.S. Senate Hearing on Day Care
Office of Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington,D.C. 20510

May 20,1987

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I am writing to you in regard to the proposed day care legislation to be presented at the hearing of the U.S. Senate Labor sub-committee on May 22.

I work for a Community Action Agency and am the director of the Kno-Ho-Co Day Care Center located in Mt. Vernon, Ohio. We are currently licensed for 73 children. We also operate a Summer Program and a Latch Key Program.

I would like to address two of the subjects in the proposed legislation. One of those being financial aid for day care for low income families. The local department of Human Services contracts with us to provide day care service for low income parents who are either working or taking job related training. There is a tremendous need for day care in our area, which is a rural area. Many of our parents work or attend school in Columbus or the surrounding areas. Our contract is for $100,000.00 per year. This no longer meets our needs. We are averaging 75 to 85 children per day and have many on a waiting list. We have had to curtail enrollment because of the lack of additional funding. As of May 15, I am overspent by $13,500.00 and have 1½ months to completion of contract. The local department of Human Services is trying to come up with the additional monies to fund us until June 30, 1987. I do not foresee the need for day care to lessen but to become greater.

My second concern is for special guaranteed loans for construction of day care centers. Our center is located in an old school building which has become too small for our needs. We are nearly "bursting at the seams". It is also in much need of renovation, additional restrooms and a larger play area.

With additional funding and a larger or renovated building we could supply the great need for day care service in our area. The majority of our children come from one parent homes. These parents need and want a day care that can provide dependable, loving, care for their children. One that is concerned with the development of the whole child, provides their daily food requirements, and all the activities that are essential for normal, healthy growth.

Would you please make my needs and comments known at your hearing?

Sincerely,

Jo Ann Hinzman
Director

JH/sf

The Kno Ho Co Community Action Commission is an equal provider of services and an equal opportunity employer.

May 21, 1987

Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I am writing in regards to your decision on the Day Care issues.

I have been employed in child care for six years and have seen many children come and go. Day care is a much needed service I am proud to be a part of. There are so many people who need quality child care but just can't afford it. These are the same people who would be on welfare if it were not for goverment funding to help care for their children so they can work.

I'm asking you please don't deny these children a safe, clean, and happy enviroment just because of money.

Sincerely,

Vicki Starner

Vicki Starner
Tender Day Care
Carroll Ohio

May 27, 1978

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I strongly support legislation to provide incentives for businesses to provide day care for employees.
Women, who are usually in lower paying jobs, are discouraged from working when 50% or more of their income has to go for child care. However, when women are forced to leave the job market because they cannot afford to pay for child care their life time earning capacity and even their retirement income is adversely affected. This adversely effects their ability to provide for themselves and their children in both the short and long term. While, some people feel that women should stay home while the men provide, that is a very short sighted approach. Should the income from the father disappear due to unemployment, death or divorce, the woman is left holding an empty bag. Without job experience, it would be difficult to earn a wage to support herself and her children.
I am the mother of twin girls, aged 11 months. I returned to work on a part time basis when they were four months old. My take home pay was about $420 and I had to pay my babysitter $220 for two weeks - more than 50% of my income. I could make more money staying home and babysitting for other children. However, that would be very short sighted because I would loose health and life insurance as well as my pension. My job would not be held for me, and when I was ready to return to work there would be no guarantee that my job would be there. I am 36 years old and if I stayed home until my daughters were in school I would be 42 years old - and it would probably be very difficult to find a job. I would also loose my time in service and time in grade. So I decided to keep this job so that I would be able to provide for my little girls.
I will go to full time hours next month. My babysitting costs will be greater - $680 for four weeks. That is a lot more than most people pay for housing! The income that doesn't go for babysitting goes for medical bills, some utilities, baby things and food. Since I have been back to work for six months I have spent less than $150 on clothing for myself. It would be nice to have the same quality of day care that was less expensive so that we could afford some other things, like furniture or fencing our yard.

Sincerely,

Patricia E. Kunkler

Patricia E. Kunkler
1978 Inchcliff Road
Columbus, Ohio 43221
(614) 481-8985

UPPER ARLINGTON CHILD CARE PROGRAM

May 1987

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been in early childhood education for fifteen years. Being a professional in this field is not easy. Neither public attitude nor decent wage rewards my hard work, dedication, or advanced educational degree. However, the time is right for advocacy. What happens to our country's children during the day is everyone's business and should be everyone's concern.

In a nutshell, most parents cannot afford to pay for the cost of a good quality day care program (between $60-120 per week). Good day care provides the family with a healthy adult/child ratio (Infants: 1/3, Preschoolers: 1/8). Good day care employs an educated staff and pays a decent wage ($15-20,000). To make this possible, government and corporate subsidation is required.

Support America's future. Invest in today's children. Find a way to make it work.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Powers

Mary Ellen Powers, Director

2605 Wickliffe Road Columbus, Ohio 43221 (614) 486-0621 ext. 308

STATEMENT OF CATHERINE GARVIN

702 Walnut
Toledo, Oh.
43604

87 JUN -8 PM 1:20

June 3, 1987

Dear Senator Metzenbaum.

I am a student in the Early Childhood Development and Education program at Owens Technical College in Toledo, Ohio. I am also hearing impaired.

I was present at the meeting that was held at Owens about the Quality day care program which was on Friday May 26, 1987.

I highly support this Bill. And I hope it will go through. The greatest need that I feel is important to this date are day care for special needs children. I realize this could require a lot of funding and highly specialized training but there are not any day care centers that will accept them. Even though P.L. 94-42 and Sec. 504. covers those places that receive funding from the federal level.

This would help those parents achieve their goals in the working world so they can make a living for the Special needs Child and other sibbling they may have. and relieve them of the burden for several hours during the day so they may attempt to achieve career goals.

We workers in the fied of Child Care must have dedication and a heart for what we do.

Yet, we also need job security to cover our medical expenses most importanty and to help those who do have a family of their own to take care of.

Sincerely,
Catherine M. Garris

COLUMBUS CHAPTER NOW
PO Box 15326 Columbus, Ohio 43215 (614) 276-5017

June 9, 1987

Dear Senator Metzenbaum:

We strongly support all efforts to improve child care in the United States. The care and development of our children is the responsibility of all of us.

We feel that corporations should be given incentives to provide day care services for their employees. These incentives could take the form of tax breaks for construction of facilities as well as for salaries of personnel in day care centers. It is unconsionable that some companies build very expensive exercise areas, including tracks and shower facilities, but are not taking any responsibility for providing affordable, quality day care services.

For many women, the availability of good day care centers would mean the difference between remaining on the job or quitting and collecting welfare. A woman cannot be expected to pay more than 50% of her income for child care and still want to continue to work. Affordable, quality day care services for employees should be considered another job benefit.

For these reasons, we support efforts to provide good day care centers to improve the quality of child care in our country.

Sincerely,

Jewel Hein

Jewel Hein, President

JH:djo

Toledo Day Nursery
219 Southard Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43624
Telephone: 244-9561

June 19, 1987

U.S. Senate Hearing on Day Care
Office of Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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Executive Director
Jean R. Kwait

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I am delighted to write to you regarding your commitment to the Day Care for Working Families Act of 1987. Your perpetual concern for America's families and children is indeed appreciated.

Toledo Day Nursery, founded in 1871, became affiliated with United Way in 1920, to offer quality care to children of parents who are employed or enrolled in a job training or educational program.

The Nursery, at our primary site, cares for approximately 115 children, ages 2½ through kindergarten, five days per week, fifty weeks per year. In association with Toledo Public Schools, we operate a second site for 38 children and are licensed to accept handicapped children at the Jefferson Center.

Our current enrollment is approximately:

... 80% single parents

... 55% Title XX

... 45% private fee pay.

Through our United Way affiliation, we are the only day care center in Toledo that is able to offer a sliding fee scale to our families. The majority of our private fee paying families are at the low end of our scale, as most qualify as low income. Toledo Day Nursery is approved for Title XX funding through Ohio Department of Human Services, which aids some of our families with their child care expenses. Unfortunately the present Title XX allocations do not meet the needs of enough consumers and it has not remained consistent.

Throughout years of serving the community, we have become increasingly aware of the need for quality day care. If our

future generations are to develop into healthy, mature adults, our youth must be given care to meet their individual needs. Although a costly factor at the outset, I'm sure you agree that quality care is preventive by design.

We are constantly reminded of the unmet child care needs in our community through our information and referral services for day care centers and day care homes. The most urgent needs appear to be:

... affordable quality care for infants, toddlers, and handicapped/special needs children

... additional affordable quality care for preschool age children.

At the present time Toledo Day Nursery's Board of Trustees and staff are considering an expansion program, which would include building on land which we lease from the Small Business Assistance Corporation (formerly Toledo Economic Planning Council). Our goal is to incorporate a program for infants, toddlers and handicapped children, which would help to meet the community needs.

Realizing the enormous capital expense that we may incur, we indeed support your efforts to appropriate the necessary funds for the expansion of facilities.

Toledo Day Nursery is attempting to coordinate services with Toledo corporations who would offer child care benefits to their employees; however, there are few (if any at present) who offer child care expenses (or any portion thereof) as a benefit. Your efforts in this area would most certainly expand needed quality child care options to employers and in turn to their employees and families.

As the day care needs of our Country continue to escalate, it is reassuring to know that our U.S. Senator has taken the lead to present some resolution to the problem before the results of neglect become tragic for us and our future generations.

If I may be of any assistance as your Bill progresses, please do not hesitate to call upon me and/or my Board of Trustees.

Yours sincerely,

Jean R. Kwait

Jean R. Kwait
Executive Director

JRK:mab
encls

Toledo Day Nursery

United Way
People Helping People

219 Southard Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43624
Telephone: 244-9561

FEE SCHEDULE

Family of Two		*Family of Three or more	
Monthly Net	Fee	Monthly Net	Fee
Up to $642	28.00	Up to $848	$28.00
643-686	29.00	849-894	29.00
687-730	30.00	895-940	30.00
731-774	31.00	941-986	31.00
775-818	32.00	987-1032	32.00
819-862	33.00	1033-1078	33.00
863-906	36.00	1079-1124	36.00
907-950	37.00	1125-1170	37.00
951-994	39.00	1171-1216	39.00
995-1038	41.00	1217-1262	41.00
1039-1082	43.00	1263-1308	43.00
1083-1126	45.00	1309-1354	45.00
1127-1170	47.00	1355-1400	47.00
1171-1214	48.00	1401-1446	48.00
1215-1258	49.00	1447-1492	49.00
1259-1302	50.00	1493-1538	50.00
1303-1346	51.00	1539-1584	51.00
1346-1391	52.00	1585-1630	52.00
1391-up	52.00	1630-up	52.00

* If children of the same family are enrolled simultaneously, the second child will be charged ½ the set fee.

A participating agency of the United Way — People Helping People.
Enrolling children age 3½ to 6 in the Day Care Center and children 6 weeks to 14 years in Day Care Homes in the Community.
The Toledo Day Nursery welcomes Bequests, Endowments, and Trusts.

LORAIN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

INCOME MAINTENANCE

SOCIAL SERVICES

● 320 N. Gateway B1, Elyria, Ohio 44035 323-5726
● 300 Broadway, Lorain, Ohio 44052 244-4150/324-6560
● MARY LOU GOLSKI, DIRECTOR

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Leonard P. Raichlin, Herbert J. Jacoby, George I. Koury Jr.

May 29, 1987

U.S. Senate Hearing on Day Care
Office of Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum:

I am professionally involved with the purchase of Title XX child care services for Lorain County Human Services, Ohio. Some problems which we face locally may be relevant in a broader sense. Under current State policy, licensed child day care centers must increase their staffing to receive Title XX funding. This requirement has had the effect of discouraging day care centers from contracting for Title XX. This is particularly true for centers that serve substantial populations of private-pay clients. Increased staff costs not covered by Title XX must be passed along to the private-pay clients, who may in turn seek more competitively priced care elsewhere. In Lorain County, the staffing differential for funded centers has significantly limited our ability to contract with area day care centers. As a result, Title XX eligible clients lack the broad choice of day care resources that are otherwise available in the community. Efforts to upgrade service requirements for an exclusive group such as funded, low income clients are self-defeating when there is a substantial need for care from the private-paying population. Rather, standards of operation should be set at a level which is deemed adequate for all consumers.

Day care providers considering Title XX have also been discouraged by bureaucratic procedures and paperwork. To a reasonable extent, these are necessary in assuring quality of services and accountability for the use of public funds. But, when day care providers perceive that it isn't worth the trouble to pursue public funding, the program suffers. A balance needs to be struck in the recognition that public funding must be made attractive to private child care providers.

Sincerely,

Dennis Stephens

Dennis Stephens, Supervisor
Child Care Unit

DS/dn

Comparison of Child Care Expenses

	Home-Based Care	Center-Based Care	
		Full-Day	Half-Day
Avg. weekly expense	$39.80	$54.94	$25.28
Maximum weekly payment	$125	$120	$77
Most frequently reported weekly expense	$50	$50 $60	$12 $13
% of parents paying:			
less than $20 weekly	27%	2%	59%
$21 to $40 per week	31%	26%	29%
More than $40	43%	71%	12%
% of parents using care five or more days weekly	61%	80%	25%
% of parents using four or more hours daily	58%	49%	none

In Franklin County, 11,300 households have children in full-day center programs, and 10,600 have children in half-day programs.

Child Care Centers

The second-most used kind of child care (27%) are structured programs in pre-schools or child care centers. There are 23,600 households in Franklin County using child care centers or pre-schools.

Most of the children attending child care centers are under age six. About half attend full-day programs, and half attend partial day programs. In Franklin County, 11,300 households have children in full-day center programs, and 10,600 have children in half-day programs. Not surprisingly, the full-day programs are more likely than half-day programs to be the primary child care for parents at work.

Here's what users say about their full-day center program.

- 82% say employment is the primary reason for use.
- 80% use them five or more days a week.
- 75% say their dependence on the center is "very great."

Here's what users say about their half-day center program.

- 32% say employment is the primary reason for use.
- 58% say social or educational experience for the child is the primary reason for use.
- 43% say their dependence on the center is "very great."

The cost for center-based care varies. Average expense for full-day care in a center is $54.94 per week, with a range from less than $30 per week to $120 per week. For half-day programs, the average weekly expense is $25.28 with a cost range from less than $10 per week to more than $70 per week. The most frequently reported weekly expense was $50 to $60 for full-day programs and $12 to $13 for half-day programs.

The majority of child care center and pre-school users are satisfied with their child care arrangements. Eighty-two percent say they have "no change planned" with their present arrangements, and that they are "very happy" with their child care center. Only 8% of those questioned say they are "actually looking" for a change, with 5% saying they are "not very happy." Translated to number of households, this means that 18,900 households in Franklin County are satisfied with their child care center and plan no changes. There are 1,800 actually looking for change, with 1,100 who are "not very happy." For those who were dissatisfied, the reasons most often mentioned were lack of individual attention, or expense of the program.

Older Sibling Care

In 9% of the households, older-children watch younger children while adults are away from home. There are an estimated 7,900 households using sibling care in Franklin County. Shopping, errands, and social activities are the primary reasons for sibling care, but 23% use older siblings because parents are at work (1,800 homes). Perhaps for this reason, dependence on sibling care is less pressing than for home child care or child care centers. Only 42% of those surveyed said their dependence was "very great." Cost for sibling care is quite low, with average payments being $3.50 per week.

In nine of ten cases, the older sibling was 13 or older. The older sibling's age was:

11-12	6%
13-14	32%
15-16	32%
17-18	9%
19+	19%

Parents were quite satisfied with this kind of care. Ninety-one percent said they had no change planned, and 73% said they were "very happy and comfortable" with the sibling care arrangement. In spite of this reported satisfaction, 25% said they had "mixed feelings" about their sibling care with the biggest problem cited as children fighting.

Experts who reviewed the research report suggested that the "mixed feelings" were a recognition on the part of parents that sibling care can pose special problems for families. They recommended that additional resources for child care programs may be needed—especially after-school programs for school-age children.

Self-Care is Used by 13,100 households

Every parent faces the decision of when children can be left without supervision. It is a question of individual parent judgment, with no legal age specified by courts because even children who are the same age have widely varying abilities. Families and neighborhood circumstances also play an important part in determining when a child can safely be left alone. What are this community's attitudes about when children can be left alone? And, how many elementary school children care for themselves?

Interviewers asked each person, "What is the youngest age that you think a child could be left alone for a period of one hour or longer?" Eighty per cent of people questioned said they thought age ten or older was the minimum age.

What is the youngest age that you think a child could be left alone for a period of one hour or longer?

Here's what survey respondents said.

Eight years old	7%
Nine years old	6%
10 years old	27%
11 years old	11%
12 or older	48%

Afternoon is the most common time parents report leaving children at home.

Thirty-nine percent of the parents report mixed feelings about self-care and another 9% say they are "not very happy."

On a day-to-day basis, most parents say they are reluctant to leave their children alone—in fact, 75% of the parents say they NEVER leave children under 12 to care for themselves. Nine percent say less than an hour, 4% say one hour, 8% say 2 to 3 hours, and only 3% say they leave their children without supervision for four to five hours. No households reported leaving children under twelve for more than five hours. Of the children who are alone for one hour or more, almost nine out of ten households report having special arrangements like neighbors nearby or rules about locked doors and visitors. Of the parents who do leave children, 22% say they regularly leave children for work, 50% said they leave children while they are shopping or running errands, and 28% cite other reasons. Afternoon is the most common time parents report leaving children at home. Researchers suggest these are "latch-key" children, alone after school.

As with other forms of child care, most parents are planning to continue using their present child care arrangements. Eighty-five percent say they have no change planned. In spite of this, many parents report mixed feelings about the arrangements (39%), and another 9% say they are "not very happy" with the self-care arrangement.

It is safe to say there are at least 13,100 households where parents are willing to leave children in self-care for an hour or more. Some 3,900 households leave children under 12 alone while parents are working, and another 9,100 leave children while parents shop or run errands. Finally, there are at least 2,800 households who leave children alone because their parents say they are unable to find other suitable arrangements.

Single parents and black families most often say they can't find, or can't afford other forms of care. The panel of experts reviewing the research recommended that the community look at special after-school programs and ways to make supervised care affordable for this group of families. They also point out that there is strong societal pressure to provide good supervision so that parents who participated in the survey may have under-reported the use of self-care. Therefore, this research is "the most conservative estimate" of households who routinely leave children alone.

Employment and Child Care

Employment outside the home is the primary reason given for child care arrangements. About half of those surveyed report that they use regular child care because of their employment. And, though most people are not planning child care changes, finding good, affordable child care presents a problem for a large number of households. Problems mentioned are those that employers have long recognized on a case-by-case basis. They include lateness, problems in holding a job because of unreliable child care, and problems when children are sick.

Based on answers given in this survey there are:

- 17,500 households where sick children have caused parents to miss work.
- 11,400 families who report that job opportunities are limited because of inadequate child care.
- 8,800 households where parents say child care arrangements have made them late for work.
- 3,500 households who say that child care has caused them problems in holding a job.

The traditional family with mothers at home and fathers working is only 40% of this sample. (See Who's At Work?) This means that although child care is still primarily a family responsibility, the community is broadly affected by these changes.

Who's At Work?

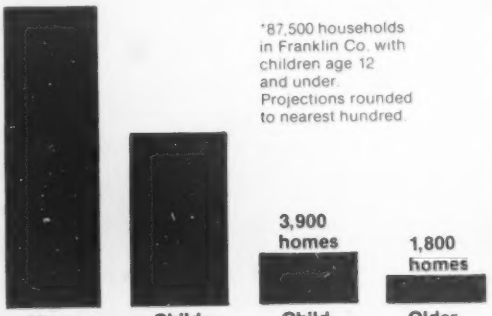
	% of population	Household
Married Couple, one parent working away from home	40%	35,000
Married Couple, both parents working away from home	39%	34,100
Single household head, working	15%	13,100
Other (student, not working, retired)	6%	5,300

A panel of child care experts who reviewed this research noted that single heads of household and low income families were much more likely to report problems in balancing employment and child care. They recommended that special attention be given to child care assistance for parents in this situation.

Experts also recommended that whenever possible, employers consider child care benefits as one of the options for employees. Programs such as child care counseling, information and referral, and other child-care benefits have helped both families and employers with increased productivity when parents are at work.

23% of single working parents and 26% low-income people reported that lack of good child care had limited the kinds of jobs they could find.

Projected number of homes using child care because parents work away from home*



*87,500 households in Franklin Co. with children age 12 and under. Projections rounded to nearest hundred.

Single Parents and Low Income Households Have More Child Care Problems

Single parents and low-income households are consistently more likely to report child care problems. When compared with the overall sample, single parent households are more likely to report:

- they feel less informed about child care options.
- they are more dissatisfied with present child care arrangements
- they have had much more trouble and disappointment in finding adequate child care
- lack of adequate child care has limited job opportunity
- children's illness has caused them to miss work.

Low income families also show a higher percentage of problems than the general sample, especially in lack of information. Fifty-two percent of the low-income families say they are not well informed about child care services, compared with 39% of the total population. This lack of information is especially difficult since they are more likely to say they've been unable to find suitable care and to believe that lack of child care has limited their employment opportunities.

Child care experts who reviewed the survey found this information troubling, but not surprising. Experts recommended that creative and widespread information strategies are needed to tell these target populations about child care resources. They also pointed out that in many cases, lack of income limited child care options. Additional subsidies are needed to aid families who want to work but cannot find affordable child care. Experts suggested additional collaboration between child care and work programs for low-income families is needed to improve child care to single parents and low-income households.

Child Care Experiences of Select Groups*

	Total	Working Single	Black	Low Income	Working Couple	Wife Home
Not well informed about child care services	39%	**48%**	42%	52%	**33%**	45%
Dissatisfied with current child care arrangement	6%	14%	10%	11%	4%	7%
Changed child care in past year	16%	**22%**	11%	**22%**	19%	12%
Reason for change						
—Expense	5%	**18%**	0%	**17%**	3%	3%
—Discomfort with provider	12%	6%	18%	16%	14%	14%
—Hours inconvenient	12%	12%	9%	0%	17%	0%
—Location inconvenient	8%	0%	0%	0%	14%	8%
Looked for and could not find suitable care in the past	22%	**33%**	23%	24%	28%	16%
Employment impact of child care						
—Limited kinds of jobs	13%	**23%**	14%	**27%**	16%	11%
—Caused lateness	10%	16%	12%	18%	13%	7%
—Problem holding job	4%	**13%**	8%	16%	1%	5%
—Problems with children's illness	20%	16%	24%	26%	26%	11%

*Compare percentages of select groups (Bold type) with percentages of total.

9

Are Parents Satisfied with Child Care?

In general, most people in the survey said they are satisfied with their present child care arrangements. In fact, more than nine out of ten said they are "satisfied," or very satisfied." There are, however, 5% who say they are dissatisfied, and another 1% who are "very dissatisfied" with their current arrangements.

Although this is a small percent of the overall total, it is a substantial number, when these percentages are applied to the total number of households. Projections show there are **5,200 households dissatisfied with their current arrangements—enough people to fill Veteran's Memorial Auditorium with 1,200 people left standing outside.**

Dissatisfaction with child care shows up in other ways too. For example, 16% of those questioned said they changed child care providers in the past year. **This means 14,000 households changed child care arrangements last year—enough people to fill St. John Arena at the Ohio State University.**

Still more people (22%) said they had tried to find child care in the past and been dissatisfied with what was available. This means 18,900 households who have experienced this frustration and worry.

There are 5,200 households dissatisfied with their current arrangements—enough people to fill Veteran's Memorial Auditorium with 1,200 people left standing outside.

There are thousands of parents actively looking for child care. In home child care there are 3,200, and of those using child care centers, there are 1,800 actively looking. Of the children in self-care, 2,800 households admit that they leave children alone because they are not able to find other suitable arrangements.

The child care experts who reviewed satisfaction data pointed out that at any time, there are thousands of Franklin County families having difficulty with child care. They need information and resources to help make good decisions. This number, experts believe, is the "most conservative" estimate because parents are often reluctant to admit there are problems with present arrangements. When a family has gone to the trouble to plan child care, they are not likely to look too closely for problems because of the inconvenience involved in making a change.

There is also lack of child care information about child care choices. Thirty-nine percent of those questioned said they did not feel adequately informed about child care choices. This means an estimated **34,100 households who admit they do not have good information.** Friends and relatives are the most frequent source of information (70%) and social service agencies (6%) were the second most frequent source. All other sources were 2% or less of the total.

The panel of child care experts who reviewed this data recommended that the Action for Children information service be more widely publicized so the thousands of parents looking for care can call for information about resources. The experts recognized though, that even with wider use of the information and referral services parents will continue to have problems with child care choices because in many cases, affordable child care is not available.

Recommendations for Child Care in the Greater Columbus Community

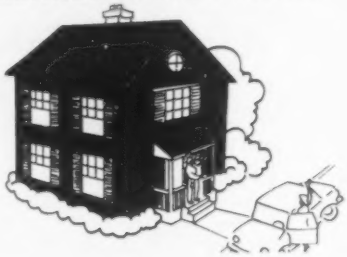
An expert panel of child care professionals reviewed the survey data during a two-day work session and made recommendations for child care in the greater Columbus community. Their recommendations were:

1. Parents need to know how to judge quality in child care, and how to find child care they can trust.

- 34,100 households say they have inadequate information about child care choices.
- 14,000 households changed child care in the past year. Nearly half of those who changed cited dissatisfaction as the reason for change.
- 5,200 parents are dissatisfied with their current child care arrangements.

2. Parents need improved information about home-based care.

Although home-based care is the most widely used form of child care (30,600 households) it is unregulated. There are no minimum standards set by county or state agencies so it is essential that consumers be educated to make wise choices. Action for Children's registered child care homes present a good model for standards and increased community education.



3. Special programs are needed to help parents and children using self-care and sibling care.

There are 3,900 households who regularly leave children under 12 alone while parents are working. Another 1,800 are left with older siblings while parents are at work. A sizable number of children are left because parents say they are unable to make other suitable child care arrangements. The panel recommended increased education for parents and children about safety practices as well as creation of supervised after-school programs or other forms of affordable child care.

4. More help should be given to low-income and single-parent families because of special problems they encounter. This support includes starting new programs and supporting and expanding existing ones.

Research showed that single-parent and low-income families are more likely to encounter problems in finding adequate child care, and more likely to have changed child care providers because of problems. They need information about child care choices, as well as affordable programs that can provide good quality care.

5. Additional emphasis should be placed on programs that help working parents.

About six out of ten households in the survey showed mothers or single parents working outside the home. These households have a special need for child care information. In addition, child care problems were reported as an employment barrier in thousands of households.

- 17,500 households reported disruption in their jobs because of childhood illness.
- 11,400 households reported that job opportunities were limited because of a lack of adequate child care.
- 8,800 households reported they were sometimes late to work because of child care problems.

Because of these pressing needs, improved coordination is needed between the job training and placement agencies and the child care agencies that help eliminate employment barriers.

An employer education program about the advantages of child care benefits should be expanded. Steps should be taken to further develop tax benefits and incentives for employers who choose to offer child care to their employees. Companies who provide child care benefits should receive public recognition as a way to stimulate increased programs and concern for child care.

Published, 1987

Action for Children

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STATEMENT OF LISA LADUKE

June 28, 1986
5:00pm

Dear Sirs;

I am writing in regards to the bill which has been introduced as an incentive for Day Care Providers and Proposed Day Care Center Operators.

I've recently been contacted by Barbara Carson of Fayette County Human Services, who has informed me of your proposed bill. It is my understanding from the literature which I recieved from your office you wanted a written statement from me, stating my intentions as a Day Care Center Operator.

I am a resident of Washington Court House, which is located in Fayette County, Ohio. As of this date our community is in great need of child care. At the present we have one center which is a non-profit organization; which only accepts children from age 3 to 13 years. As you may already know Fayette Co. Human Services is at a great shortage for home providers. The community is in great need of child care services and I am willing and ready to provide this service.

I have contacted several realators and have decided on a particular lot inwhich I intend to build. It is commercially zoned and located

on a State Route, in a prominant area within the city limits.

I am planning to open my center in the fall of this year, through which I will accept 0mo. to 5 yrs. of age. As I earlier stated there is a great need for child care of this kind in our community.

In the past few months I rnet with Kelly Cole of the State Day Care Licensing, and have completed most of the preliminary paper work. I have also made arrangements to contract with Fayette County Human Services. I plan to have a 56 child occupancy and 1/2 of which will be Human Service's placements.

It would be of great importance to me to get a guaranteed loan with deferred payments, to get my program on it's feet, So as to provide our community with professional child care services.

Thank-You;
Lisa A. DeDuke

Miami Valley Child Development Centers, Inc.
1034 SUPERIOR AVENUE • DAYTON, OHIO 45407 • (513) 278-8293

MARILYN E. THOMAS
Executive Director

May 28, 1987

U.S. Senate Hearing on Day Care
Office of Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum:

Thank you for the opportunity to present MVCDC's views regarding the need for child care and especially HEAD START.

Since the 1980's, child care is simply good business, more parents of pre-school children have entered the work force. For many parents each day is a logistical challenge dropping off and picking up children, meeting bus schedules and hoping school does not let out early, when all goes well mom or dad are at work on time.

Work productivity can suffer when parents feel uneasy about their child's care. Businesses could use options such as on-site care, or off-site care. There is a 250% increase in the number of working mothers with pre-school children in Ohio within the past two decades, over 2/3 work full time. Over 1/4 of the working mothers have husbands earning less than $10,000 per year. Child care is often 1/4 - 1/5 highest item in the family budget.

Please review the attached testimony. If there are any questions, feel free to contact me.

MVCDC wishes to express our sincere appreciation for your day care legislation and you have our support. A child's tomorrow is today. We must save our most precious resource.

Sincerely,

Betty Toney

Betty Toney
Assistant Director for Programs

BT:bc

cc: M. Thomas, Executive Director

Attachments

Miami Valley Child Development Centers, Inc.
1034 SUPERIOR AVENUE • DAYTON, OHIO 45407 • (513) 278-8293

MARILYN E. THOMAS
Executive Director

TESTIMONY

Submitted to: Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
Date: May 28, 1987
Purpose: U. S. Senate Hearing on Day Care

Definition of Problem

There is a lack of sufficient quality affordable child care for low income pre-school children. Adequate child care for pre-school children is a pressing need for many. HEAD START dollars do not provide services to all eligible families. Every dollar invested in Head Start will net the community $7.00 in the long run and $3.00 in the short run from reducing special education placements, grade retentions and from freeing parents to work.* Public investment in children, including a strong federal role, is necessary to reach the goal of preserving the family. Cost-effective programs such as HEAD START are needed both, to help our low income children today and save the community money tomorrow.

*Children's Defense Fund Research.

Extent of the Problem

Project HEAD START is a comprehensive child development program designed to help economically disadvantaged pre-schoolers. Over 90 percent of all Head Start families live below the federal poverty line of $11,000 per a family of four. A minimum of 10 percent of the children are handicapped.

Over the past several years, inadequate funding levels for Head Start have threatened its effectiveness. In the 1981-82 year, elimination of the Public Service Employment component of CETA caused Head Start to lose workers.

Reductions in other federal programs like Medicaid have further eroded the ability of Head Start to fulfill its comprehensive mandate. For example, in the health area, Head Start programs' are forced to pay for services previously covered through other funding sources:

- o More dentists and doctors refuse to accept Medicaid cards because of Medicaid cutbacks

MVCDC has a waiting list of 225 eligible children as of January 31, 1987; however, Children's Defense Fund research estimates 6,000 below income pre-school children in Montgomery County.

Effect of the Problem

Programs for children have been demonstrated to be among the most cost-effective government efforts in preventing larger government spending later in life. More than two million children have been added to the nation's poor in the last two years. There are increases in child abuse and neglect. Over five million children of working parents spend part of the day in inadequate and unsupervised arrangements. Low income working parents who are in school or training programs are among those hardest hit by child care costs.

*See attached Newsweek (Feb. 2, 1987) article.

Services Needed to Address the Problem

More HEAD START services are needed to provide service to eligible families. The role that an early childhood development program can play in promoting a child's development has impressed a broad range of policymakers. Most poor children are not getting an equal opportunity to participate in early child development programs. The first four or five years of a child's life are a critical period.

Funding

MVCDC new program and funding year began February 1, 1987. The Department of Health and Human Services has awarded a grant of $2,385,267. A minimum of 1,290 Head Start children in Montgomery, Clark, Butler and Madison Counties are to receive Head Start services. Approximately, $1,849 per child per year is the annual cost.

NOTE: MVCDC would strongly recommend the reading of the Children's Defense Budget (an analysis of the FY1987 Federal Budget and children). MVCDC would be willing to loan our copy or order through Children's Defense Fund, 122 C Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001, (202) 628-8787.

All MVCDC Child Care Centers are licensed by the State Department of Human Services.

/bc

James

Lucas County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities
2001 COLLINGWOOD BOULEVARD • TOLEDO, OHIO 43620 • (419) 248-3585

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Statement of Vivian Pope, ACSW, LISW QMRP
For the United States Senate Labor Sub-Committee Hearing
On the Metzenbaum Day care Bill
Toledo, Ohio, May 22, 1987

As a social worker who has served families of mentally retarded persons for the past 18 years, I appreciate the opportunity to write to you about the need for day care centers that can successfully accommodate handicapped and developmentally delayed children. While a few specialized facilities might be needed to care for children with severe medical problems, I am firmly convinced that most children with developmental delays and handicaps can be cared for in the same environments that serve normal children. I cite the Headstart program as a primary example of successful integration of handicapped children with normal children.

Susan McFarland, president of the Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children has stated that day care is difficult to find for poor families, for children under 3, and for children who need care after school or in the evening. I would concur totally with Ms. McFarland's statement, adding that the problems of parents with handicapped children are compounded by the children's medical needs, physical and emotional stresses, and the fears and superstitions which, unfortunately, still attach themselves to these children.

I would like to present two examples directly from my own recent experience:

1. Mary is a two year old child diagnosed as functioning like an average 10 month old. Because there is no day care available for Mary and also because of her medical needs, both parents are limited to part-time jobs. As a result, their combined incomes are at poverty level.
   Mary is too young to attend school. The day care centers I contacted would not accept Mary because she is not toilet trained. One that would have accepted her was filled and could only put her on a waiting list. The private funding sources I called were able to provide financial help only a few weeks, and the family cannot afford an average day care cost of $45.00 a week.

The Lucas County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities does not discriminate in the provision of services or employment because of handicap, race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age

One possible day care home available with Title XX funding was on the opposite side of town where Mary's parents live and work. They cannot afford the travel time or the gasoline. They are just hanging in and waiting it out till Mary starts pre-school at age 3. Then they will still need after-school care for her if they are ever to have a moderate income.

2. Ernest is a 14 year old boy whose mental retardation resulted from a malignant brain tumor which was removed when he was an infant. (Ernest attends a junior high class for multiply handicapped children. He and his two younger sisters arrived home from school about 3; mother came home from work at 6. Ernest's 12 year old sister was responsible for his care. Ernest resented being "bossed" by his younger sister. He became violent and destructive. Sometimes his mother had to come home from work to settle him down, risking loss of her job. An available low cost community after-school program would have been ideal for Ernest; but the service was only for children under 12; the director said he was too short staffed to give individual attention to any child; and I suspect they were afraid of Ernest. Ernest now lives in a foster home.

I believe that problems like the above can be alleviated by:

1. Providing incentive payments to day care centers to serve handicapped children and making such services mandatory for any center receiving federal funding.

2. Requiring high ratios of staff to children so that individual attention can be given as needed.

3. Requiring staff members to receive training in working with handicapped and developmentally delayed children.

4. Providing for state certification-or licensing- to serve handicapped children and also for ongoing monitoring of centers to maintain high quality of services.

5. Providing financial assistance to parents so they can use these

facilities.

6. Providing medical screenings for all children.

The above requirements would benefit all children. By helping the handicapped child, we would improve the quality of care for all the children in these centers.

Finally, this plan would give parents of handicapped children some freedom of choice in selecting a day care program that would best meet the needs of the child. Quality of care, attitude of staff, the physical setting, and geographical location are all important components.

I hope this statement will be of use to you in presenting the need for the Day Care Working Families Act. Again, thank you for this opportunity to communicate my thoughts on this subject.

Vivian Pope

Seneca County
Department of Human Services
and Child Welfare Services

May 19, 1987

U.S. Senator Howard Metzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum:

I just received a notice of the hearing to be held at Owens Tech on 5-22-87. I will be unable to attend due to prior commitments, however, I am taking this opportunity to express my thoughts to you.

I am a social worker at the Seneca County Department of Human Services and I work full-time as a day care coordinator (this is not my official title, but I think it should be), and have held this job for one and a half years. I have an A.B. in Early Childhood Education and I love my job.

I believe that money spent in providing "affordable" day care is money well spent. In my additional seven years of working for Seneca County Department of Human Services, I have witnessed many people, men, women, and families alike, who have remained on the welfare rolls because working a low paying job was not advantageous when having to pay day care expenses. Given an "affordable" means of day care, I feel many people would be working rather than collecting their checks from the government.

Day Care Centers serve their purpose and are nice in many situations, but having worked so closely with in-home Day Care Providers, I still feel that children should be taught at home if at all possible, especially infants. I hate seeing infants in day care centers! We have an excellent group of Day Care Providers in our fairly rural county and they have become "quality" providers through training. I feel that the training requirement was an excellent move.

I have communicated with some surrounding counties and have learned that some do not have full-time day care workers. It is hard to understand sometimes how similar counties can differ so much. I am sure that the need also exists in their county as it does in ours, but for some administrative reason, they are not putting full effort into the program. I sometimes feel that our job should be separate from Human Services so that we can give 100% to day care services and casework, but is that feasible?

To sum things up I guess my bottom line opinion is that the government should spend more on day care - help for the working people - and less on "welfare". Thanks for all that you have already done to help this cause and I hope you continue to work toward your stated goals and proposed projects. They sound like programs from which our fellow taxpayers can truly benefit.

Very truly yours,

Susan L. Simpkins

Susan L. Simpkins, Social Worker

SLS/db
C. Jean Butz, Supervisor

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628 Warren Ave.
Washington C.H.,Oh.43160
May 26, 1987

87 JUN -3 AM 8:57

U.S. Senate Hearings on Day Care
Honorable Senator Howard Menzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington D.C., 20510

Dear Honorable Senator Menzenbaum,
I am an advocate for Day Care assistance in all the areas you and your add your Subcommittee are proposing legislature to cover.

In the stressful economic world of today, with both heads of a household working and most of them needing both incomes, plus the tremendous number of single parent households. I see a present and future need for incentives for businesses to provide Day Care services thru their own resources or contracting for it.

Safeguards for children in Day Care should be just that but it should be considered carefully as well as thoroughly and strive to a"happy medium" between state legislation (at least in Ohio) on Day Care and Foster Care rules.

Guaranteed loans for construction of Day Care Centers in our area would assist progress here for service. At present Fayette County has only one daytime service center with limited hours and enrollment. It is sponsored by the Bapist Church and is very independent. They charge less than the Federal & State funded Day Care Program here and refuse to contract with that program although they receive assistance thru the food program for their very exclusive clientele and their enrollment is only half of their limit. They do not cover the twenty-four hour need nor infants and younger toddlers. Other churches have only two hour daily sessions.

We really need Day Care for the financilly eligible low income families and my feeling is that their children are the ones needing an earlier learning experience.

We can see what strides Head Start has made for beginning school students. I can see these Day Care programs as a help with raising their living standards and expectations as well as a meaningful support to do these things. Their parenting skills (with professional helps and guidance) can be better developed too. Most important is the potential in all areas for that new generation (the children).

The future Day Care service need is expected to grow with our population needs and would be used if the parents are secure in and for Day Care arrangements.

Your terms affordable and available coincide with my feelings and findings exactly.

Thank you for this consideration.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Barbara J. Carson

MERRICK HOUSE
SETTLEMENT AND DAY NURSERY
1050 STARKWEATHER AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44113

771-5077

June 1, 1987

Office of Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
U.S. Senate Hearing on Day Care
140 Russel Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I am gratified to know that you are instrumental, as a member of the Senate Labor subcommittee on day care, in researching and upgrading this badly - needed service. It is my observation that the current Administration does not heavily invest in day care, however, the need for federal funds for child day care is apparent.

Thanks to the Title XX Act, the economically disadvantaged and/or single parent has access to subsidized day care services, enabling her to work and/or attend school. Each parent is working to acquire a marketable skill and to become gainfully employed. The program has successfully helped hundreds of parents from my Center alone. The need, however, is still great. I have at the Merrick House alone twenty-nine more parents (in addition to the thirty-five subsidized clients currently served) awaiting care. As a provider of this service, I see the pressing need for more subsidized day care slots.

Please take this message back to the other members of the U.S. Senate. If adults are to go to work, then obviously they need care for their children. Studies have also shown that in the job market place, parents of children who are enrolled in quality child care programs (and subsidized programs, with their build-in quality controls, exemlify the highest of standards) are more productive at their own work.

Very truly yours,

Kathleen M. Ansberry
Kathleen M. Ansberry
Director of Day Care

A United Way Agency

Westminster Child Care Center

1301 Broadway Street
Toledo, Ohio 43609
(419) 243-3700

Margaret S. Matthews • Administrator

June 3, 1987

Senator Howard Metzenbaum
140 Russell
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I recently attended the hearings at Owen's Technical College in Toledo and was most inpressed by the informative panel and ideas they presented. I am so pleased that the issue of child care is being heard by public officials. So many times I have felt that what I do for my livlihood is frowned upon or treated with disrespect or contempt. I thank you for listening to the families and other professionals who know how important we are to the future of the United States.

I have included a statement that I hope will be included in the official record of the United States Hearing. I would also appreciate learning of any events or efforts on this issue in the future.

Sincerely,

Margaret Stewart Matthews

Margaret Stewart Matthews

Growing Together

Recently a hearing was held in the Toledo area on day care issues. I commend Senator Howard Metzenbaum for focusing attention on this vitally important issue. The need for quality child care services and support for the many children and their families who are searching for a good place to care for their children is paramount. The persons who are already involved with this field can tell you the need is there and increasing every year.

I am currently the director of a non-profit, church sponsored child care center that is located in one of Toledo's central city neighborhoods and has been in opperation for six years. The families served by Westminster Child Care Center are Hispanic and white with many single parent homes and blended families represented. Most of our parents work in service industries, as secretaries, and as laborers. We do not serve the more affluent "yuppie" population but serve the working class. Many of these families exist on low incomes and their day care center expenses take a big portion of their weekly paychecks even taking into consideration our very low fee of $45.00 a week for full time child care. For many the alternative to working for a low wage is welfare and that is a alternative they do not wish to consider. To provide additional support for these families would help stabilize their lives, keep them working which helps the economy, and get their children off to a good start educationally and socially.

Standards for child care in this country needs to be standardized. Ratios of children and caregivers are very important in defining quality of care. There are so many variations now regarding standards that each state promotes different definitions of "quality". By having a national code of quality or minimum standards children all over the country would be assured of equal care.

Staff in a child care center is the most important part of the center's make up. Our staff can be described as dedicated, educated, committed, and loving. However these important characteristics are rewarded with low wages, few benefits, little job security, and no respect from the community at large. I feel that in a sense we child care workers subsidize the families we serve by working for such low wages. I question the fairness of the current situation but know that this is

where I belong as a professional. I am compelled by my conscience, abilities, and satisfaction in seeing young lives changed to remain in this occupation and I know the others on my staff feel the same. Recognition of our professions value to our society begins with the recognition financially of our worth. This will recognize the fact that we need to have well trained, well educated, and caring persons in this field and in the lives of our country's future, our children.

Thank you once again for investigating this area of our country's life that has for so long been looked at as unimportant.

Submitted by:

Margaret Stewart Matthews
Director
Westminster Child Care Center
1301 Broadway St.
Toledo, OH 43609
419-243-3700

Kno-Ho-Co Day Care
Hiawatha Community Service Center
71 Sychar Rd. — P.O. Box 930
Mt. Vernon, OH 43050
614-393-7976

U.S. Senate Hearing on Day Care
Office of Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

May 20, 1987

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I am writing to you in regard to the proposed day care legislation to be presented at the hearing of the U.S. Senate Labor sub-committee on May 22.

I work for a Community Action Agency and am the director of the Kno-Ho-Co Day Care Center located in Mt. Vernon, Ohio. We are currently licensed for 73 children. We also operate a Summer Program and a Latch Key Program.

I would like to address two of the subjects in the proposed legislation. One of those being financial aid for day care for low income families. The local department of Human Services contracts with us to provide day care service for low income parents who are either working or taking job related training. There is a tremendous need for day care in our area, which is a rural area. Many of our parents work or attend school in Columbus or the surrounding areas. Our contract is for $100,000.00 per year. This no longer meets our needs. We are averaging 75 to 85 children per day and have many on a waiting list. We have had to curtail enrollment because of the lack of additional funding. As of May 15, I am overspent by $13,500.00 and have 1½ months to completion of contract. The local department of Human Services is trying to come up with the additional monies to fund us until June 30, 1987. I do not foresee the need for day care to lessen but to become greater.

My second concern is for special guaranteed loans for construction of day care centers. Our center is located in an old school building which has become too small for our needs. We are nearly "bursting at the seams". It is also in much need of renovation, additional restrooms and a larger play area.

With additional funding and a larger or renovated building we could supply the great need for day care service in our area. The majority of our children come from one parent homes. These parents need and want a day care that can provide dependable, loving, care for their children. One that is concerned with the development of the whole child, provides their daily food requirements, and all the activities that are essential for normal, healthy growth.

Would you please make my needs and comments known at your hearing?

Sincerely,

Jo Ann Hinzman
Director

JH/sf

The Kno Ho Co Community Action Commission is an equal provider of services and an equal opportunity employer.

May 21, 1987

Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I am writing in regards to your decision on the Day Care issues.

I have been employed in child care for six years and have seen many children come and go. Day care is a much needed service I am proud to be a part of. There are so many people who need quality child care but just can't afford it. These are the same people who would be on welfare if it were not for goverment funding to help care for their children so they can work.

I'm asking you please don't deny these children a safe, clean, and happy enviroment just because of money.

Sincerely,

Vicki Starner

Vicki Starner
Tender Day Care
Carroll Ohio

May 27, 1978

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I strongly support legislation to provide incentives for businesses to provide day care for employees.
Women, who are usually in lower paying jobs, are discouraged from working when 50% or more of their income has to go for child care. However, when women are forced to leave the job market because they cannot afford to pay for child care their life time earning capacity and even their retirement income is adversely affected. This adversely effects their ability to provide for themselves and their children in both the short and long term. While, some people feel that women should stay home while the men provide, that is a very short sighted approach. Should the income from the father disappear due to unemployment, death or divorce, the woman is left holding an empty bag. Without job experience, it would be difficult to earn a wage to support herself and her children.
I am the mother of twin girls, aged 11 months. I returned to work on a part time basis when they were four months old. My take home pay was about $420 and I had to pay my babysitter $220 for two weeks - more than 50% of my income. I could make more money staying home and babysitting for other children. However, that would be very short sighted because I would loose health and life insurance as well as my pension. My job would not be held for me, and when I was ready to return to work there would be no guarantee that my job would be there. I am 36 years old and if I stayed home until my daughters were in school I would be 42 years old - and it would probably be very difficult to find a job. I would also loose my time in service and time in grade. So I decided to keep this job so that I would be able to provide for my little girls.
I will go to full time hours next month. My babysitting costs will be greater - $680 for four weeks. That is a lot more than most people pay for housing! The income that doesn't go for babysitting goes for medical bills, some utilities, baby things and food. Since I have been back to work for six months I have spent less than $150 on clothing for myself. It would be nice to have the same quality of day care that was less expensive so that we could afford some other things, like furniture or fencing our yard.

Sincerely,

Patricia E. Kunkler

Patricia E. Kunkler
1978 Inchcliff Road
Columbus, Ohio 43221
(614) 481-8985

UPPER ARLINGTON CHILD CARE PROGRAM

May 1987

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been in early childhood education for fifteen years. Being a professional in this field is not easy. Neither public attitude nor decent wage rewards my hard work, dedication, or advanced educational degree. However, the time is right for advocacy. What happens to our country's children during the day is everyone's business and should be everyone's concern.

In a nutshell, most parents cannot afford to pay for the cost of a good quality day care program (between $60-100 per week). Good day care provides the family with a healthy adult/child ratio (Infants: 1/3, Preschoolers: 1/8). Good day care employs an educated staff and pays a decent wage ($15-20,000). To make this possible, government and corporate subsidation is required.

Support America's future. Invest in today's children. Find a way to make it work.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Powers

Mary Ellen Powers, Director

2605 Wichita Road · Columbus, Ohio 43221 · 614-486-9621 ext. 306

STATEMENT OF CATHERINE GARVIN

702 Walnut
Toledo, Oh.
43604

87 JUN -8 PM 1:20

June 3, 1987

Dear Senator Metzenbaum.

I am a student in the Early Childhood Development and Education program at Owens Technical College in Toledo, Ohio. I am also hearing impaired.

I was present at the meeting that was held at Owens about the Quality day care program which was on Friday May 26, 1987.

I highly support this Bill. And I hope it will go through. The greatest need that I feel is important to this date are day care for special needs children. I realize this could require a lot of funding and highly specialized training but there are not any day care centers that will accept them. Even though P.L. 94-42 and Sec. 504. covers those places that receive funding from the federal level.

This would help those parents achieve their goals in the working world so they can make a living for the special needs child and other sibblings they may have. and relieve them of the burden for several hours during the day so they may attempt to achieve career goals.

We workers in the fied of Child Care must have dedication and a love for what we do.

Yet, we also need job security to cover our medical expenses most importantly and to help those who do have a family of their own to take care of.

Sincerely,
Catherine M. Garro

COLUMBUS CHAPTER NOW
PO Box 15326 Columbus, Ohio 43215 (614) 276-5017

June 9, 1987

Dear Senator Metzenbaum:

We strongly support all efforts to improve child care in the United States. The care and development of our children is the responsibility of all of us.

We feel that corporations should be given incentives to provide day care services for their employees. These incentives could take the form of tax breaks for construction of facilities as well as for salaries of personnel in day care centers. It is unconsionable that some companies build very expensive exercise areas, including tracks and shower facilities, but are not taking any responsibility for providing affordable, quality day care services.

For many women, the availability of good day care centers would mean the difference between remaining on the job or quitting and collecting welfare. A woman cannot be expected to pay more than 50% of her income for child care and still want to continue to work. Affordable, quality day care services for employees should be considered another job benefit.

For these reasons, we support efforts to provide good day care centers to improve the quality of child care in our country.

Sincerely,

Jewel Hein

Jewel Hein, President

JH:djo

Toledo Day Nursery
219 Southard Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43624
Telephone: 244-9561

June 19, 1987

U.S. Senate Hearing on Day Care
Office of Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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Executive Director
Jean R. Kwait

Dear Senator Metzenbaum,

I am delighted to write to you regarding your commitment to the Day Care for Working Families Act of 1987. Your perpetual concern for America's families and children is indeed appreciated.

Toledo Day Nursery, founded in 1871, became affiliated with United Way in 1920, to offer quality care to children of parents who are employed or enrolled in a job training or educational program.

The Nursery, at our primary site, cares for approximately 115 children, ages 2½ through kindergarten, five days per week, fifty weeks per year. In association with Toledo Public Schools, we operate a second site for 38 children and are licensed to accept handicapped children at the Jefferson Center.

Our current enrollment is approximately:

... 80% single parents

... 55% Title XX

... 45% private fee pay.

Through our United Way affiliation, we are the only day care center in Toledo that is able to offer a sliding fee scale to our families. The majority of our private fee paying families are at the low end of our scale, as most qualify as low income. Toledo Day Nursery is approved for Title XX funding through Ohio Department of Human Services, which aids some of our families with their child care expenses. Unfortunately the present Title XX allocations do not meet the needs of enough consumers and it has not remained consistent.

Throughout years of serving the community, we have become increasingly aware of the need for quality day care. If our

future generations are to develop into healthy, mature adults, our youth must be given care to meet their individual needs. Although a costly factor at the outset, I'm sure you agree that quality care is preventive by design.

We are constantly reminded of the unmet child care needs in our community through our information and referral services for day care centers and day care homes. The most urgent needs appear to be:

... affordable quality care for infants, toddlers, and handicapped/special needs children

... additional affordable quality care for preschool age children.

At the present time Toledo Day Nursery's Board of Trustees and staff are considering an expansion program, which would include building on land which we lease from the Small Business Assistance Corporation (formerly Toledo Economic Planning Council). Our goal is to incorporate a program for infants, toddlers and handicapped children, which would help to meet the community needs.

Realizing the enormous capital expense that we may incur, we indeed support your efforts to appropriate the necessary funds for the expansion of facilities.

Toledo Day Nursery is attempting to coordinate services with Toledo corporations who would offer child care benefits to their employees; however, there are few (if any at present) who offer child care expenses (or any portion thereof) as a benefit. Your efforts in this area would most certainly expand needed quality child care options to employers and in turn to their employees and families.

As the day care needs of our Country continue to escalate, it is reassuring to know that our U.S. Senator has taken the lead to present some resolution to the problem before the results of neglect become tragic for us and our future generations.

If I may be of any assistance as your Bill progresses, please do not hesitate to call upon me and/or my Board of Trustees.

Yours sincerely,

Jean R. Kwait

Jean R. Kwait
Executive Director

JRK:mab
encls

Toledo Day Nursery

219 Southard Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43624
Telephone: 244-9561

United Way
People Helping People

FEE SCHEDULE

Family of Two		*Family of Three or more	
Monthly Net	Fee	Monthly Net	Fee
Up to $642	28.00	Up to $848	$28.00
643-686	29.00	849-894	29.00
687-730	30.00	895-940	30.00
731-774	31.00	941-986	31.00
775-818	32.00	987-1032	32.00
819-862	33.00	1033-1078	33.00
863-906	36.00	1079-1124	36.00
907-950	37.00	1125-1170	37.00
951-994	39.00	1171-1216	39.00
995-1038	41.00	1217-1262	41.00
1039-1082	43.00	1263-1308	43.00
1083-1126	45.00	1309-1354	45.00
1127-1170	47.00	1355-1400	47.00
1171-1214	48.00	1401-1446	48.00
1215-1258	49.00	1447-1492	49.00
1259-1302	50.00	1493-1538	50.00
1303-1346	51.00	1539-1584	51.00
1346-1391	52.00	1585-1630	52.00
1391-up	52.00	1630-up	52.00

* If children of the same family are enrolled simultaneously, the second child will be charged ½ the set fee.

A participating agency of the United Way — People Helping People.
Enrolling children age 2½ to 6 in the Day Care Center and children 6 weeks to 14 years in Day Care Homes in the Community.
The Toledo Day Nursery welcomes Bequests, Endowments, and Trusts.

LORAIN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

INCOME MAINTENANCE

● 320 N. Gateway B1, Elyria, Ohio 44035 323-5726
● 300 Broadway, Lorain, Ohio 44052 244-4150/324-6560
● MARY LOU GOLSKI, DIRECTOR

SOCIAL SERVICES

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Leonard P. Reichlin
Herbert J. Jacoby
George I. Koury Jr.

May 29, 1987

U.S. Senate Hearing on Day Care
Office of Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum:

I am professionally involved with the purchase of Title XX child care services for Lorain County Human Services, Ohio. Some problems which we face locally may be relevant in a broader sense. Under current State policy, licensed child day care centers must increase their staffing to receive Title XX funding. This requirement has had the effect of discouraging day care centers from contracting for Title XX. This is particularly true for centers that serve substantial populations of private-pay clients. Increased staff costs not covered by Title XX must be passed along to the private-pay clients, who may in turn seek more competitively priced care elsewhere. In Lorain County, the staffing differential for funded centers has significantly limited our ability to contract with area day care centers. As a result, Title XX eligible clients lack the broad choice of day care resources that are otherwise available in the community. Efforts to upgrade service requirements for an exclusive group such as funded, low income clients are self-defeating when there is a substantial need for care from the private-paying population. Rather, standards of operation should be set at a level which is deemed adequate for all consumers.

Day care providers considering Title XX have also been discouraged by bureaucratic procedures and paperwork. To a reasonable extent, these are necessary in assuring quality of services and accountability for the use of public funds. But, when day care providers perceive that it isn't worth the trouble to pursue public funding, the program suffers. A balance needs to be struck in the recognition that public funding must be made attractive to private child care providers.

Sincerely,

Dennis Stephens

Dennis Stephens, Supervisor
Child Care Unit

DS/dn